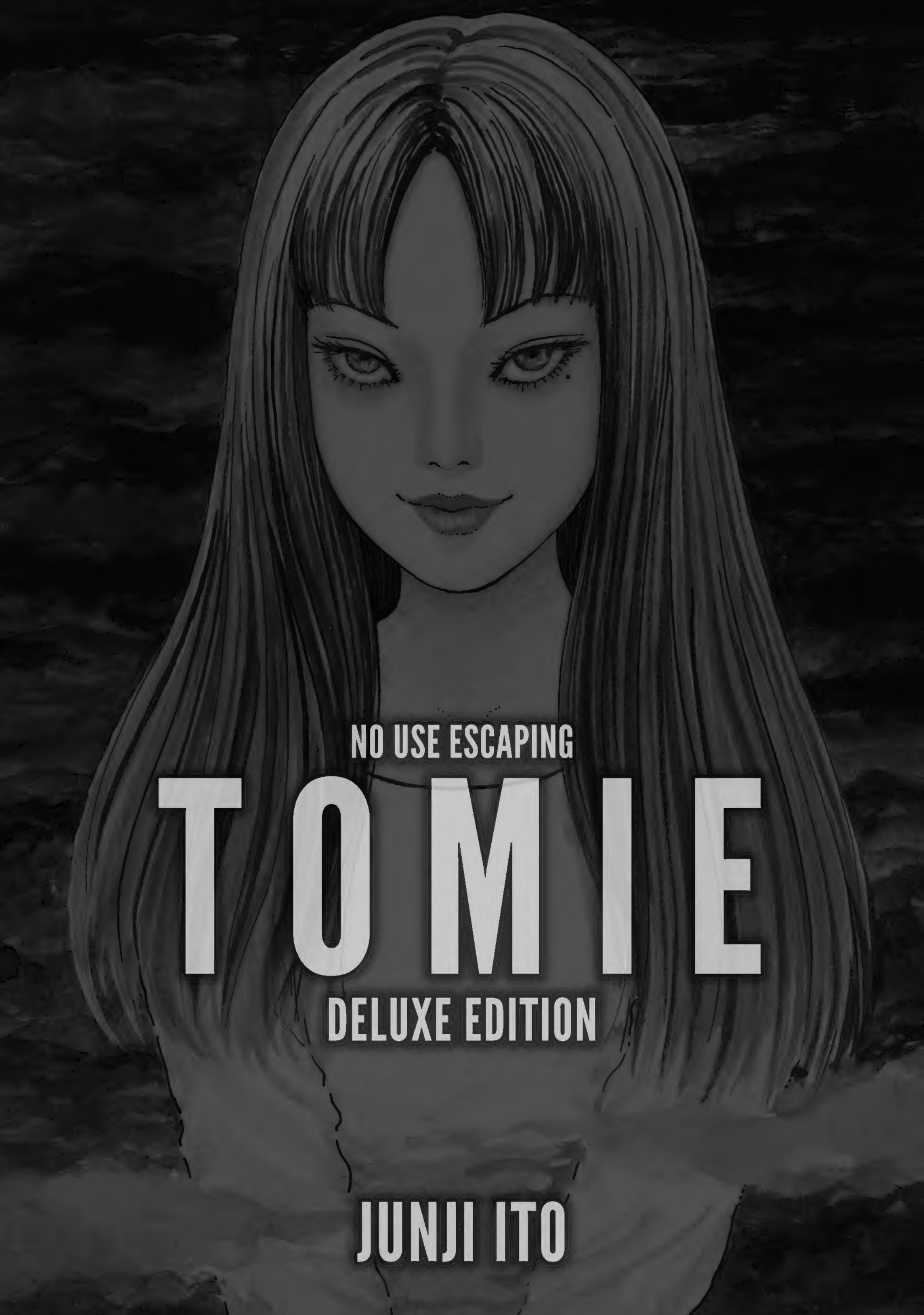
NO USE ESCAPING

TOMIE

JUNJI ITO


NO USE ESCAPING
TOMIE
DELUXE EDITION
JUNJI ITO

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富江（とみえ） TOMIE

PIECES OF HER BODY WERE FOUND SCATTERED EVERYWHERE.

MY FRIEND TOMIE IS DEAD.

AND RIGHT AFTER OUR FIELD TRIP. I CAN'T HELP FEELING RESPONSIBLE. I MEAN, AS HER TEACHER...

I HEAR SOME ARE STILL MISSING. SHE WAS JUST CHOPPED TO BITS.

THEY DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO DID IT. I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW SCARED I AM.

DO YOU REMEMBER SEEING ANYONE SUSPICIOUS ALONG THE WAY?

WE WENT PLANT WATCHING IN YUKIGAHARA. THEN WE STUCK TOGETHER UNTIL THAT INTERSECTION IN TSUTSUURA. SHE TOOK OFF THERE.

NO.

YES. WE DID.

SO YOU LEFT TOGETHER WITH HER, THEN?

THIS IS TERRIBLE. IF IT'S A NIGHTMARE, PLEASE LET ME WAKE UP.

1B

OH, TOMIE...

WHAT HAPPENED TO TOMIE WAS A SHOCK.

I WANT TO THANK YOU ALL FOR ATTENDING THE FUNERAL YESTERDAY. I'M SURE YOU'RE EXHAUSTED FROM ALL THE STANDING AROUND.

EVERY-ONE.

I'M DISTRESSED, AND I DEEPLY REGRET OUR LOSS.

DATING A GUY LIKE YAMAMOTO. HOW COULD SHE EVER...

THE POLICE STILL DON'T HAVE ANY LEADS. ALL THEY CAN SAY IS THE KILLER MUST BE A PSYCHOPATH.

I FEEL EVEN WORSE FOR YAMAMOTO. HE WAS SO IN LOVE WITH HER. THIS ISN'T FAIR.

FOR HER DEATH TO MEAN ANYTHING, WE NEED TO TAKE IT AS A LESSON. I KNOW IT'S HARD, BUT IT'S ALL WE CAN DO. THE FACT IS...

...HOWEVER MUCH WE MISS HER...

SRIT SRIT

THAT, AND THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE HE'S STILL IN THE AREA. FOR YOU GIRLS ESPECIALLY, THEY SAY NOW IS A BAD TIME TO BE OUT ALONE.

RATTLE

...SHE'S NOT COMING BACK.

SORRY I'M LATE.

T... TOMIE!

YEEEK!

THERE! THAT'S HER.

YOU KNOW, THE ZOMBIE CHICK.

YEAH, THE FRESHMAN.

SO, DEAD OR ALIVE, TOMIE RETURNED AFTER ALL. BY THE END OF THE DAY, THE WHOLE SCHOOL WAS ABUZZ.

MAN, SHE'S GORGEOUS.

ZOMBIE OR NOT, I WOULDN'T MIND A PIECE OF THAT.

NECRO-PHILIA'S A CRIME, YOU KNOW.

MR. TAKAGI. SO YOU FOUND ME.

TOMIE!

LOUNGE

SURE!

WOULD YOU MIND FOLLOWING ME TO THE TEACHER'S LOUNGE?

AAHH!

OH, MR. TAKAGI!

THAT CAN'T BE TRUE. IF YOU'RE JUST GOING TO STIR UP TROUBLE—

BUT...I DON'T HAVE A SISTER.

SO TELL ME. WHO ARE YOU REALLY? TOMIE'S TWIN SISTER, MAYBE?

LET GO!

TOMIE, LET GO!

I LOVE YOU! WHEN I GRADUATE, YOU'LL STILL MARRY ME... WON'T YOU?

WHO THE HELL IS SHE? THE REAL DEAL? IS SHE STILL ALIVE?

THAT'S NUTS! THEY FOUND HUNKS OF HER ALL OVER.

A WALKING GHOST?

1 B

I DON'T UNDER-STAND.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, REIKO?

MY HEAD IS SPINNING. WHY IS SHE STILL ALIVE? HEY, YAMAMOTO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

YOUR TEACHER —

KIDS! WE'VE GOT BAD NEWS.

IF THAT'S REALLY HER, I GUESS WE'VE GOT A KEY WITNESS. THEY'LL SORT OUT WHO DID THIS IN NO TIME.

WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID? IF THAT'S HER, THEN SHE'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH THE CASE. I MEAN, THERE SHE IS. SHE'S FINE. AND WE SHOULD BE HAPPY.

THAT'S A GOOD POINT.

URK

YAMA-MOTO.

WHAT'S GOING ON...?

IT'S NO USE. HE'S FLIPPED OUT. GET A DOCTOR.

MR. TAKAGI, GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF!

I CHECKED THE BUREAU OF IDENTIFICATION. THEY'VE ALREADY CREMATED AND BURIED THE REMAINS.

HMMM.

YOU MEAN, IT WASN'T HER BODY?

BUT THE DENTAL RECORDS— THEY WERE A PERFECT MATCH!

EEE-OOO

SHE'S STILL ALIVE?

GET OFF ME!

UH...NO, I'VE GOT PLANS... HEY! WAIT UP!

ARE YOU FREE TODAY?

I LOVE YOU, YAMA-MOTO.

TOMIE SCARES ME NOW. SHE DROVE MR. TAKAGI INSANE!

REIKO, ARE YOU LISTENING?

I KNOW I SHOULDN'T HAVE SLEPT WITH MR. TAKAGI. STILL, I—

REIKO, WHY IS HE BEING SO COLD TO ME?

WHAT'S GOING ON?!

THEY'RE ALL AVOIDING ME!

EVERYONE IS. THE WHOLE CLASS—

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? NOW YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD, TOO.

I... I AM.

REIKO!

T-TOMIE, WHAT IS IT? WHY ARE YOU...?

...IT WAS JUST A NIGHTMARE.

MAYBE... MAYBE SHE NEVER DID DIE. MAYBE NONE OF THIS REALLY HAPPENED. MAYBE...

AAAH !!

NO. THAT BRIDGE...

IT'S THE SCHOOL.

WHUH ?

HUFF HUFF

SHE'S A GHOST! SHE MUST BE...

NO JOKE RAMEN New!

No Joke!

Jake ENASAKURA

E NA

REIKO ...

AH, YAMAMOTO ...

YAAAHHH!!

WHY DID I...

THAT'S WHAT SHE WANTS, ISN'T IT? SHE MEANS TO DRIVE US MAD. WE NEED TO TAKE ACTION, FAST. IF WE DON'T, WE'LL PLAY RIGHT INTO HER HANDS!

ME TOO. I'M...ABOUT TO LOSE IT.

YOU KNOW. LIKE MR. TAKAGI DID.

MAKE IT STOP! I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE!

REIKO.

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT... WE NEED TO TURN OURSELVES IN.

THERE'S A SORT OF A CLIFF BEHIND IT—PERFECT FOR GEOLOGY LESSONS.

HALFWAY UP, YOU CAN SEE AN INARI SHRINE.

...HOW CAN I EXPLAIN? YOU SEE...THAT DAY, AFTER FIFTH PERIOD? THE DAY SHE...DIED... OUR CLASS HIKED UP A MOUNTAIN NOT SO FAR FROM SCHOOL. A SMALL MOUNTAIN CALLED INARIYAMA.

NO THANKS. GOTTA TAKE A PUFF.

HEY, MR. TAKAGI, YOU WANNA JOIN US?

AREN'T WE A LITTLE OLD FOR PLAYING BALL, REIKO?

TOMIE, ARE YOU COMING?

WHEE!

THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY. I GUESS YOU CAN TAKE A RECESS NOW.

YEAH!

WHOO!

AW, JUST LEAVE HER, REIKO...

WHAT, A GROWN WOMAN LIKE ME?

YOU'RE NOT PLAYING WITH YOUR FRIENDS?

HELLO.

IT'S ALWAYS THE GUYS WITH HER. YOU THINK IT'S 'CAUSE WE IGNORE HER? WELL, NOT YOU, I MEAN—OWF!

NO. WE'RE CHILD-HOOD FRIENDS.

HEY, REIKO, CHECK IT OUT. IT'S TOMIE GLUING HERSELF TO MR. TAKAGI AGAIN. IT'S LIKE AN EPIDEMIC WITH HER.

I CAN'T STAY QUIET FOREVER, YOU KNOW. THE SCHOOL MIGHT FIND OUT.

ARE YOU NUTS?

LEAVE YOUR WIFE.

I THINK THAT'S MY BAD EAR. WHAT?

SO WHEN DO WE GET HITCHED, MR. TAKAGI?

TOMIE!

IT'S AN OLD STORY.

I THINK I'M PREGNANT.

WERE YOU AN APT PUPIL?

WILL YOU COOL IT?! JUST PIPE DOWN! THIS DOESN'T EVEN CONCERN YOU.

YOU WERE LISTEN-ING?! LET GO OF ME, YAMA-MOTO.

SO WHAT'S MR. TAKAGI BEEN TEACH-ING YOU, HUH?!

YOW! GO EASY!

YOU...I OUGHTA ...!

I DON'T ONLY STUDY UNDER HIM. SOMETIMES ON T—

SNAK

AHH!

OH, FINE. IF YOU WANT TO KNOW!

HEY, WHAT'S THE SCENE UP THERE?

LOVE IS IN THE AIR!

WOBBLE

HMPH!

WHAT KIND OF MONSTER ARE YOU?

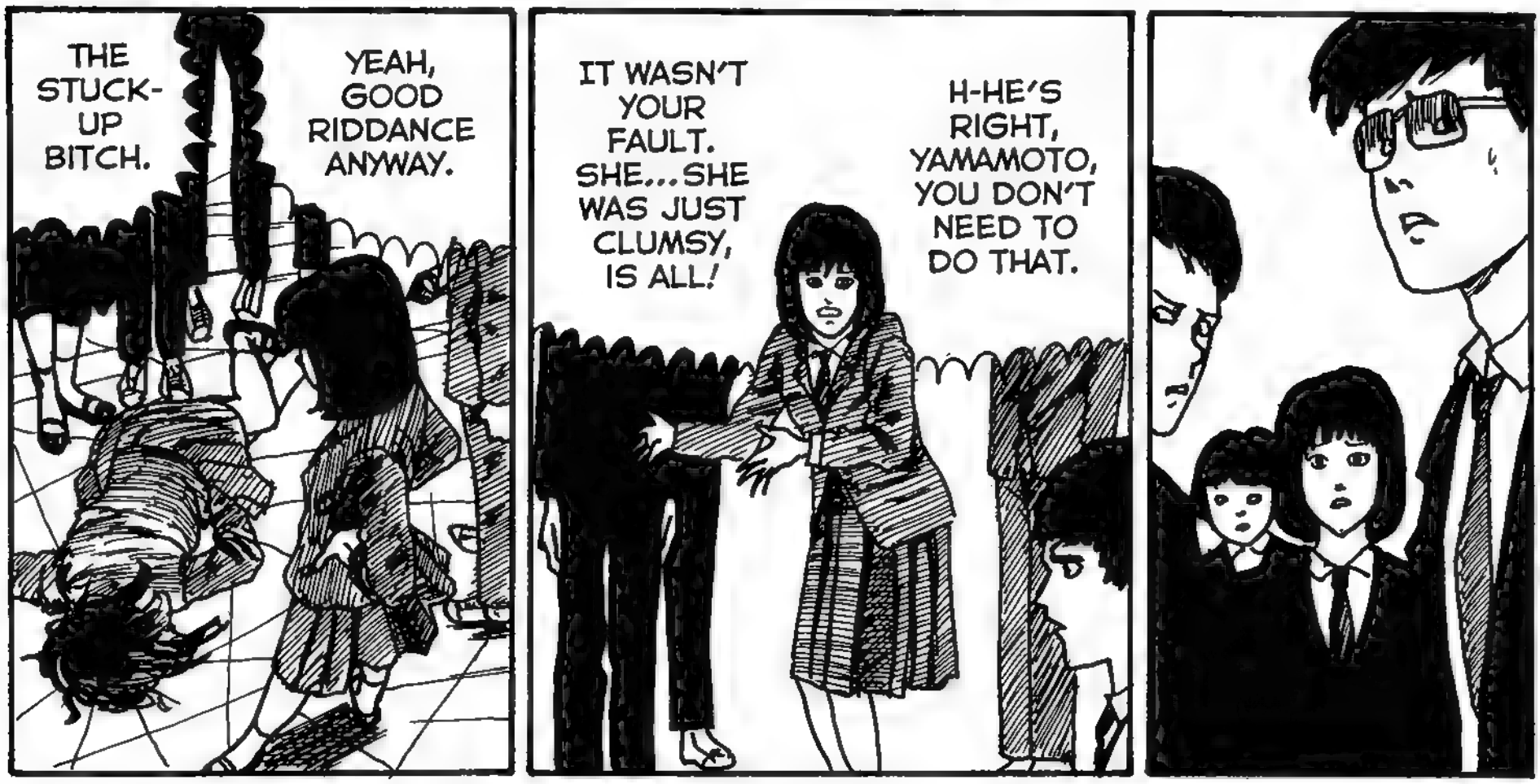
YOU...

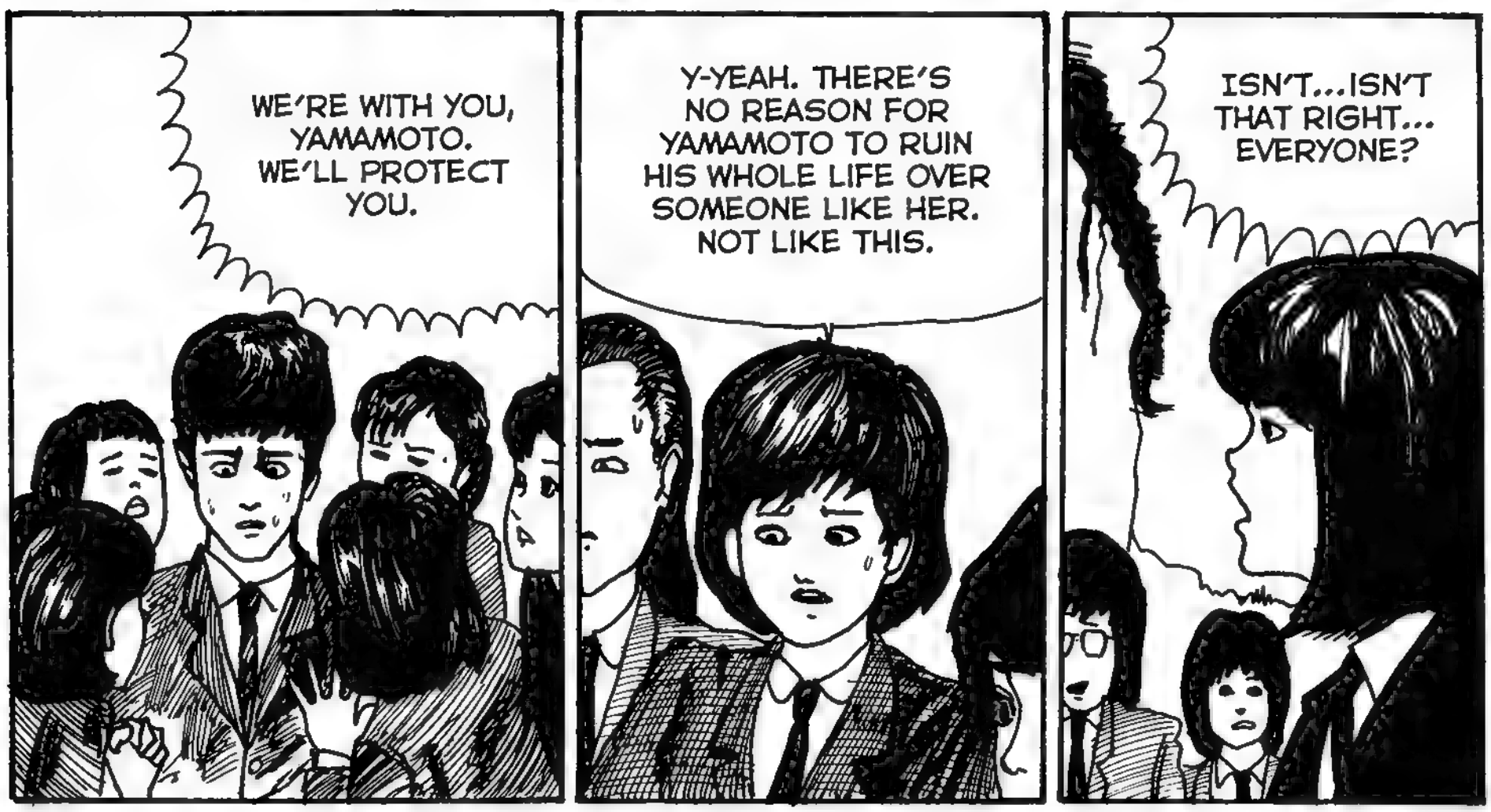
EEYAAAAAH!

TOMIE!!

TOMIE!
IS SHE OKAY?
MR. TAKAGI!
YAMA-MOTO!
I DID IT!! I MADE HER FALL! IT'S ME! OH MY GOD!!
YAAAHHH!!
SHE'S... DEAD!
NO WAY!
MR. TAKAGI!
YAMA-MOTO, WAIT!
AMBU-LANCE!! GET AN—

YOU CAUSED HER DEATH, BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO TURN YOURSELF IN, ARE YOU?


THE STUCK-UP BITCH.
YEAH, GOOD RIDDANCE ANYWAY.
IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT. SHE...SHE WAS JUST CLUMSY, IS ALL!
H-HE'S RIGHT, YAMAMOTO, YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THAT.


WE'RE WITH YOU, YAMAMOTO. WE'LL PROTECT YOU.
Y-YEAH. THERE'S NO REASON FOR YAMAMOTO TO RUIN HIS WHOLE LIFE OVER SOMEONE LIKE HER. NOT LIKE THIS.
ISN'T...ISN'T THAT RIGHT... EVERYONE?

YOU GUYS GET UNDRESSED. GIRLS, KEEP A LOOKOUT.

ER... YEAH. BUT WHAT'RE YOU—

ONE OF YOU MUST HAVE BROUGHT A TOOLBOX.

GUYS, YOU HAD TECHNICAL EDUCATION TODAY.

Y-YEAH.

COME ON, REIKO. LET'S GO COVER THE WEST.

OWW!

CHRUH

!!

DL DL DT

CHRUH

HURRY!

MR. TAKAGI! WHAT DO WE DO?!

SHE'S ALIVE!

OH, MAN!

CRUUH CRUUH

CHEK

MMF!

MEN, GO BATHE IN THE RIVER!

ALL RIGHT. WE'RE DONE HERE!

YOU DID WELL!

TOMIE ...

THAT'S THE COLON. LET'S GET THE APPENDIX, TOO.

HER... LARGE INTESTINE IS...BIG.

SHE MUST'VE HAD A SANDWICH FOR LUNCH... LOTS OF CARROTS...

THIS IS NOT THE FIELD TRIP ANY OF US HAD PLANNED ON. I'M SORRY. NOW GO HOME.

EACH OF YOU MUST DISCARD A PIECE WHERE NO ONE WILL FIND IT.

THERE ARE 42 OF US. THERE ARE 42 PIECES.

I... DUNNO.

WHERE'RE YOU GONNA CHUCK IT?

WHAT'S... A GOOD PLACE?

SINCE I WAS HER ONLY REAL FRIEND, THEY GAVE ME HER HEART.

SPOSH

SAMUEL CHOW 1

HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF

SOME OF THE OTHER GUYS ARE AFTER THEM. WE HAVE TO TAKE CARE OF THIS BEFORE THEY MAKE IT TO THE POLICE.

THOSE STUPID DOPES!

YEAH. AND HE'S GOT REIKO WITH HIM.

WHAT? YAMA-MOTO?

SHHH !!

I CAN'T KEEP RUNNING LIKE TH—

WE SHOULD TURN BACK.

THERE THEY ARE! STOP!

CRAP!

RUN!

ACK!

SOMEONE! HELP US! HELP!!

YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T GET AWAY.

THE DAY'S GETTING LATE, YAMAMOTO. LET'S ALL GO HOME, OKAY?

I DON'T RECALL THIS BEING OUR PLAN.

GRAH !!

HAVE IT YOUR WAY!

HE'S DEAD!!

WATCH IT! THEY'RE BOLTING!

GET UP!

URK

YAMA-MOTO, WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT.

HA HA HA HA HA. CAT'S LOST HIS LEGS, HAS HE?

WE'RE DOOMED.

URK

OIL

WHAT...DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

WARLOCK'S

YOU AND YAMAMOTO SEEM... AWFULLY CLOSE.

REIKO... WHAT'S GOING ON?

TOMIE... FORGIVE ME.

AAA AHHH!

WHAT? N-NO!

THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL!

HIS MIND WAS GONE.

LATER THEY FOUND YAMAMOTO WHERE I LEFT HIM.

AS IT HAPPENED, THREE DAYS LATER MY FAMILY MOVED TO A TOWN BY THE OCEAN. IT WAS FORTUNATE.

I DON'T KNOW WHATEVER BECAME OF TOMIE.

MY OLD LIFE RETURNS IN BITS AND PIECES. FROM WHAT I HEAR, SEVERAL OF MY OLD CLASSMATES LEFT SCHOOL. AT LEAST TWO COMMITTED SUICIDE. CLASS 1-B IS IN A STATE OF DISARRAY, PRETTY MUCH.

THAT FIELD TRIP...IT WAS A NIGHTMARE. A MASS DELUSION. THAT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION I CAN OFFER. THE ALTERNATIVE IS JUST IMPOSSIBLE. HOW COULD WE HAVE DONE SUCH A THING? HOW COULD IT HAVE HAPPENED?

BUT NOW THAT I CAN THINK IN A CALM FRAME OF MIND...I THINK SHE WAS ALIVE AFTER ALL.

SHAA SHAA SHAA

AND I KNOW THAT TOMIE WASN'T A GHOST.

SHAA SHAA

DON'T I KNOW THIS WRAPPER?

WHERE ARE THE CONTENTS ?

SHAA SHAA

TOMIE / END

TOMIE
PART 2
MORITA
HOSPITAL
とみえ
富江
森田病院編

TAKAGI? YOU MEAN THE OLD SCHOOLTEACHER?

NATIONAL SANITARIUM / EAST WING

HE JUMPED THE WALL EARLY THIS MORNING, IT SEEMS.

SMOKING ROO

THAT'S THE ONE.

YUP.

IT'S A SHAME SUCH A DISTURBED PATIENT GOT AWAY. I GUESS HE'S STILL OUT THERE?

RIGHT AGAIN.

THAT DEAD GIRL THEY FOUND A COUPLE YEARS BACK...WHERE WAS IT? A TOWN SOMEWHERE NEAR HERE. WASN'T TAKAGI THE TEACHER?

THE MEDIA WENT NUTS ON THAT ONE. WHAT WAS THE GIRL'S NAME? SHE WAS A PRETTY THING..."TOMIE," I THINK. HER KILLER HAD SOME FUN, MINCING HER UP INTO SMALL PIECES. MY HUNCH IS THAT IT WAS TAKAGI.

THIS WAS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY?

MAYBE. THEY SAY SHE CAME TO SCHOOL, DAY AFTER HER FUNERAL. MAKE OF IT WHAT YOU WILL, BUT THERE ARE LOTS OF WITNESSES.

SO HE'S THE KILLER, AND THAT'S WHY HE'S DISTURBED. IT FITS. ABOUT THE GHOST, THOUGH—YOU FIGURE HE REALLY SAW SOMETHING?

PROBABLY. HE CLAIMED HE SAW THE GIRL'S GHOST. THAT'S THE ONLY REASON HE WOUND UP HERE.

SOUNDS TYPICAL FOR HIM. AS DOCTORS, WE REALLY SHOULD TRY TO GET INTO HIS HEAD.

YEAH, WELL, ANYWAY. THEY'D BETTER FIND HIM FAST.

WHAT DID HE SAY?

AND ACTUALLY, TAKAGI DIDN'T SAY IT WAS A GHOST, EXACTLY.

HE INSISTS THE GIRL WAS "NEVER A NORMAL HUMAN BEING TO BEGIN WITH."

MORITA HOSPITAL

Internal
Medicine
Surgery,
Pediatric

P

THEY'VE GOT ME ON A STRICT DIET HERE.

I KEEP GETTING THEM AS GIFTS, BUT I CAN'T EAT THEM.

HAVE SOME MORE APPLES.

201

YUKIKO MIO

YOU'LL RECOVER SOON ENOUGH. DON'T WORRY. YOUR CLASSMATES ARE ALL BEHIND YOU, TOO.

I JUST WANT TO GET BETTER AND GO BACK TO SCHOOL, TADASHI, AND BE WITH YOU.

I'M GETTING SICK OF IT, THOUGH.

I'M JUST WAITING FOR A DONOR.

I'VE ASKED FOR A KIDNEY TRANSPLANT. IN THEORY THAT WOULD SOLVE EVERYTHING.

BUT WHO KNOWS HOW LONG IT'LL BE...

BUT AS THINGS ARE, THEY TELL ME I MAY NEVER HEAL.

FRIENDS TO THE END, IS IT? I'M HAPPY I KNOW YOU.

THANK YOU, TADASHI...

I WISH I COULD GIVE YOU MINE. TOO BAD MY BLOOD TYPE DOESN'T MATCH...

I'LL COME BY AGAIN.

YEAH, I'VE GOT THINGS I NEED TO DO.

WHAT...? ALREADY?

WELL, YUKI, TIME TO GET A MOVE ON.

THANKS FOR THE APPLE!

Y-YEAH, SURE.

B-TUM

TADASHI... SOMEHOW HE SEEMS SO INSINCERE LATELY.

WHO'S THAT WOMAN?

201

YUKIKO MIO

SHE'S PRETTY...

TWO DAYS LATER, THE WOMAN CAME TO VISIT YUKIKO.

I WANTED A WORD WITH YOU.

YEAH? WHAT ABOUT?

HOW DO YOU DO? I'M REIKO MIZUTANI.

YOU'RE YUKIKO, AM I RIGHT?

KEEP AWAY FROM HIM, FOR HIS OWN GOOD.

WHAT?

I'M HERE TO REQUEST THAT YOU STOP SEEING TADASHI.

LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE.

WHAT'S GOING THROUGH YOUR HEAD?! DON'T BE ABSURD!

WHAT IS THIS? WHAT A SELFISH THING FOR YOU TO ASK! YOU BURST IN HERE AND—

YET YOU HAVE THESE MOUSY ASPIRATIONS TO BE HIS "GIRLFRIEND." NOW REALLY, WHO'S BEING ABSURD?

YOU'VE LOOKED IN A MIRROR BEFORE, HAVEN'T YOU?

ABSURD? NOW THERE'S A THOUGHT.

PLEASE LEAVE.

I MEAN, DO YOU WANT TO COMPETE WITH ME?

IN A MOMENT. NOW LISTEN.

HE TOLD ME WHAT A RELIEF IT WILL BE WHEN YOU DIE.

YOU'RE LYING!

YOU'VE CAUSED TADASHI ENOUGH TROUBLE. HE TOLD ME THAT HE COULDN'T WAIT TO BE RID OF YOU.

BECAUSE YOU'RE SO DAMNED DEPENDENT, HE'S GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO KEEP YOU COMPANY.

HE SPEAKS ILL OF YOU TO NO END...

AND YET, I GUESS THAT'S THE KIND OF MAN I LIKE.

HIS SPECTACLES MAGNIFY WHAT LITTLE KINDNESS THERE IS IN HIS EYES.

AM I? OF COURSE YOU WOULDN'T SEE HIS DARK SIDE.

GET OUT!!

...WE'RE IN LOVE.

I JUST KNOW...

DID YOU?

DID YOU JUST THROW SOMETHING AT ME?

NURSE! GET THIS WOMAN OUT OF HERE!

IS THERE A PROBLEM, YUKIKO?

WELL, YUKIKO, IT'S IN YOUR HANDS NOW.

QUICKLY, NOW!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? THIS PATIENT IS UNDER STRICT DIRECTIVE FOR PEACE AND QUIET! PLEASE LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!

SHE'S... LYING.

HUFF HUFF

HEY, YUKI... LOOK AT ME.

IS IT GETTING THAT BAD?

YUKI... WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK MISERABLE.

SO YOU LOVE HER?

REIKO MIZUTANI CAME TO SEE ME.

GOODBYE.

IT'S ALL RIGHT. YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME ANYMORE...

THAT'S THE ONE WITH THE KIDNEY PROBLEM, RIGHT?

YES!

DOCTOR! THE CONDITION OF THE PATIENT IN 201 IS DETERIO-RATING!

HMMM...IT'S BAD. IT'S TURNING INTO UREMIA.

YES, I BELIEVE SO, BUT—

WAS SHE UNDER A STRICT DIET?

PREPARE FOR DIALYSIS TREATMENT IMMEDIATELY!

HMM...THAT DOESN'T SEEM LIKELY...

I BET SHE SNUCK IN SOME SALTED *SENBEI* AT NIGHT.

HEMODIALYSIS ROOM

I...I'M PREPARED TO DIE...

DOCTOR... IT'S ALL RIGHT... JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.

COME ON... DON'T GIVE UP ON ME!

INTERNAL SHUNT, OKAY.

AND YOU'RE SWEATING. ARE YOU UNWELL?

WHAT'S WRONG, TADASHI? YOU'VE BEEN QUIET FOR SOME TIME.

WE HAD A REALLY NICE CHAT.

YES, I DID... SHE'S A SWEET GIRL.

REIKO... I HEARD YOU VISITED YUKI.

YOU KNOW, SHE'S SOMETHING ELSE.

SHE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT HER LIFE. HER DREAMS. HER GOALS.

WHY DO YOU TALK LIKE THAT?

SHE HAD THIS... BLISSFUL LOOK.

REIKO.

SHE LOOKED SO ALIVE WHEN SHE SPOKE OF HIM. LIKE SHE WAS SOMEWHERE ELSE.

THERE'S THIS HANDSOME DOCTOR THAT SHE'S GETTING CLOSE TO.

BUT I DO KNOW YUKI. AND THAT'S NOT YUKI.

LYMPIA CLINIC 6F

YOUR NAME AND SCHOOL CHANGE EVERY TIME I ASK. I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT YOU.

IT SEEMS LIKE THAT'S ALL THAT COMES OUT OF YOUR MOUTH. IS THIS ALL A GAME FOR YOU?

WHAT, AGAIN?!

CAN YOU AFFORD THEM?

THOSE EARRINGS. THEY'RE REALLY PRETTY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW?

FINE, THEN.

I'LL GO ASK A RICH MAN. BYE-BYE.

I'M STILL A STUDENT, AND SO ARE YOU. I'M NOT A BANK VAULT, AND WON'T BE FOR SOME TIME, IF EVER.

FORGET IT. I'VE ALREADY BORROWED AS MUCH FROM MY PARENTS AS I CAN. I'M RUNNING OUT OF PLAUSIBLE EXCUSES.

OIKE CL

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? IT'S JUST A LITTLE PAIR OF EARRINGS.

F

H-HEY... REIKO.

EVEN HER NAME'S A LIE.

ARE YOU TALKING TO ME, SIR?

REIKO? WHO'S THAT?

...I'VE HAD THIS ABNORMAL URGE. AND IT ONLY GETS STRONGER WITH EVERY MOMENT I'M WITH HER.

AND IT JUST MIGHT BE RUBBING OFF ON ME. SINCE THE MOMENT WE MET AT THAT BEACH...

I JUST MIGHT HAVE FALLEN FOR A DEGENERATE.

...THE PICTURE IS CLEAR AND VIVID. IT'S LIKE I WAS THERE.

WEIRDER STILL, THERE'S THIS EVENT FROM TWO YEARS AGO. WHENEVER IT COMES TO MIND, AND IT FREQUENTLY DOES...

"MURDERER STILL AT LARGE."

...IT'S HER SPITTING IMAGE.

AND MAYBE I'M CRAZY, BUT THE FACE...

EVEN THE MOLE! IT'S A PERFECT MATCH!

THE NEWSPAPER FEATURED A PHOTO OF THE VICTIM.

IT'S ABOUT TIME I STOP SEEING HER...

MAYBE THAT'S WHY I BECAME OBSESSED TO START WITH. OUT OF MORBID CURIOSITY.

BUT I'M SURE YUKI WILL FORGIVE ME.

I WONDER WHY I BEHAVED SO UNFAITHFULLY TOWARD HER.

AND YES, I SHOULD VISIT THE HOSPITAL.

I'LL APOLOGIZE TO YUKI.

Y-YOU...

TEE HEE HEE... SCARED YOU, DIDN'T I?

TADASHI !!

I LOVE YOU.

I WAS JUST JOKING. YOU'RE RIGHT, YOU ARE FUN TO TEASE.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT ANY EARRINGS. YOU'RE ALL I WANT.

SAY SOMETHING, ALREADY. YOU'RE SO QUIET.

HEY, TADASHI.

I CAN'T ESCAPE.

TADASHI!!

GYAAH!!

IT'S NO USE. SHE'S DEAD.

HURRY!

YEAH, WE GOT HIM RED-HANDED.

DID YOU CATCH THE MURDERER, DETECTIVE?

HE'S BEING HELD FOR QUESTIONING AS WE SPEAK.

POLICE

WHY'D YA DO IT, KID?

YOU MUST'VE HAD A REASON.

I DON'T KNOW.

IS THAT SO STRANGE? AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS THESE URGES?

I JUST... WANTED TO KILL HER, DETECTIVE... WHEN I SAW HER...

THAT'S WHY I STABBED HER. BUT YOU STOPPED ME BEFORE I COULD CUT HER UP.

FOR SOME REASON, I FELT THIS URGE TO DISMANTLE HER.

YES?

THE FACT IS WE HAVE A PATIENT IN CRITICAL CONDITION AT THE HOSPITAL. I CHECKED THE VICTIM'S BLOOD TYPE, AND IT MATCHES THE PATIENT'S.

WHAT IS IT, DOC?

BY THE WAY, DETECTIVE, I'D LIKE YOUR ADVICE.

WELL...I'M AFRAID WE'D NEED CONSENT FROM THE VICTIM'S FAMILY TO DO THAT. BUT WE HAVE NO IDEA WHO SHE IS. WE'RE STILL WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO SHOW UP AND CLAIM HER BODY.

I MUST ASK. CAN WE USE ONE OF HER KIDNEYS?

PLEASE COME IN.

SIR, THE VICTIM'S FATHER IS HERE.

HEH... HEH HEH.

IS THIS YOUR DAUGHTER?

MY NAME'S TAKAGI...

POOR HANAKO... THAT MUST'VE HURT.

HMMM. WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

HEE HEE HEE HEE! NO...NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

THE MAN THEN DISAPPEARED IMMEDIATELY, LEAVING THE BODY BEHIND, AND THE OPERATION BEGAN.

YOU NEED A KIDNEY? PLEASE! BE MY GUEST! IF I KNOW HANAKO, THIS IS RIGHT UP HER ALLEY. GO FOR IT!

SIR, I'M THE DIRECTOR OF THIS HOSPITAL. IN TRUTH, I...

THUS, DESPITE SOME UNRESOLVED MYSTERIES, THE CASE WAS CLOSED.

GOOD.

JUST FINE.

HOW DO YOU FEEL TODAY?

I WANT TO THANK HER.

PLEASE TELL ME WHO THE DONOR IS.

LEFT TO A WAITING LIST, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE SURVIVED. THERE'S JUST TOO MUCH DEMAND. I SAY YOU'VE GOT A GUARDIAN ANGEL.

YOU WERE REALLY LUCKY A DONOR CAME FORWARD.

ER...YES, I'LL LOOK INTO IT.

I MEAN IT, THOUGH. YOU CAN SEE HOW FULL I AM.

YOU SHOULD BE.

OH NOT AGAIN, YUKIKO. YOU MUST EAT SOMETHING. YOU NEED ALL THE STRENGTH YOU CAN GET.

BUT I'M NOT HUNGRY. REALLY.

YOU'RE... RIGHT. HOW ODD. I WONDER...

IT HURTS!

AAAH!

YUKIKO!

AWK!

AND WHY ON EARTH WOULD HER STOMACH BULGE LIKE THAT?

THE PATIENT IN 201?! SHE WAS RECOVERING SO WELL!!

SHE JUST FAINTED!

HOW IS SHE?

AM I CRAZY OR BLIND? HOWEVER I LOOK AT IT...

WHAT DO YOU THINK, DR. TAMURA?

X-RAY ROOM

THIS...

...ONE OF THE APPENDAGES HAS ENTERED THE STOMACH, AS YOU CAN SEE.

FURTHER-MORE...

...ALL I CAN SEE ARE LIMBS GROWING OUT OF THE KIDNEY YOU IMPLANTED.

IF YOU'RE DREAMING, THEN WE BOTH ARE.

...IT'S A HUMAN SKULL.

BUT IT'S DEFINITELY A KIDNEY.

DID WE IMPLANT A FETUS, THINKING IT WAS A KIDNEY?

HOW DO WE EXPLAIN THIS?

IT'S GOT TO COME OUT, AND NOW. FIRST WE SEE TO HER STOMACH.

I HAVE NO IDEA.

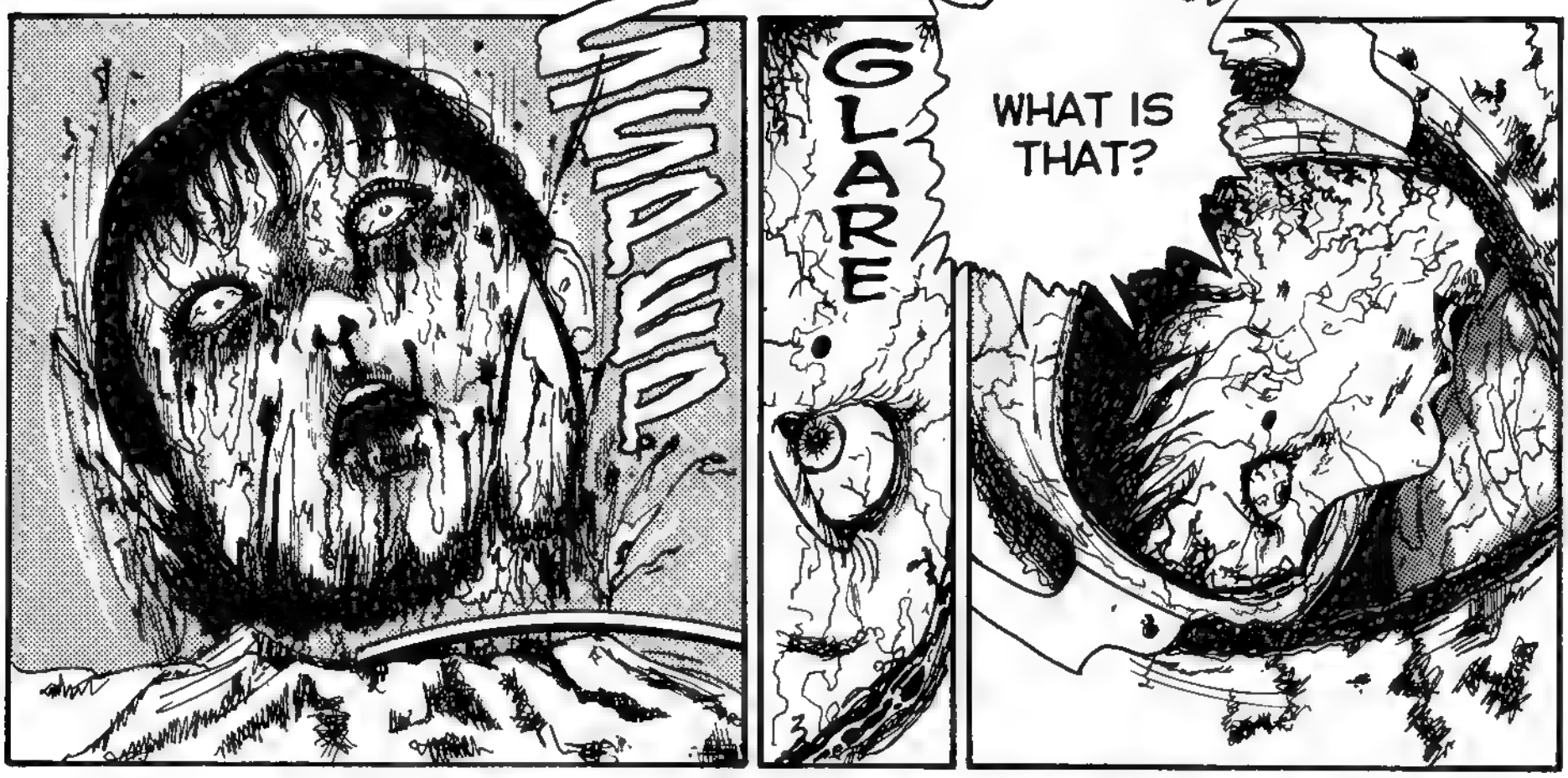
SCALPEL.

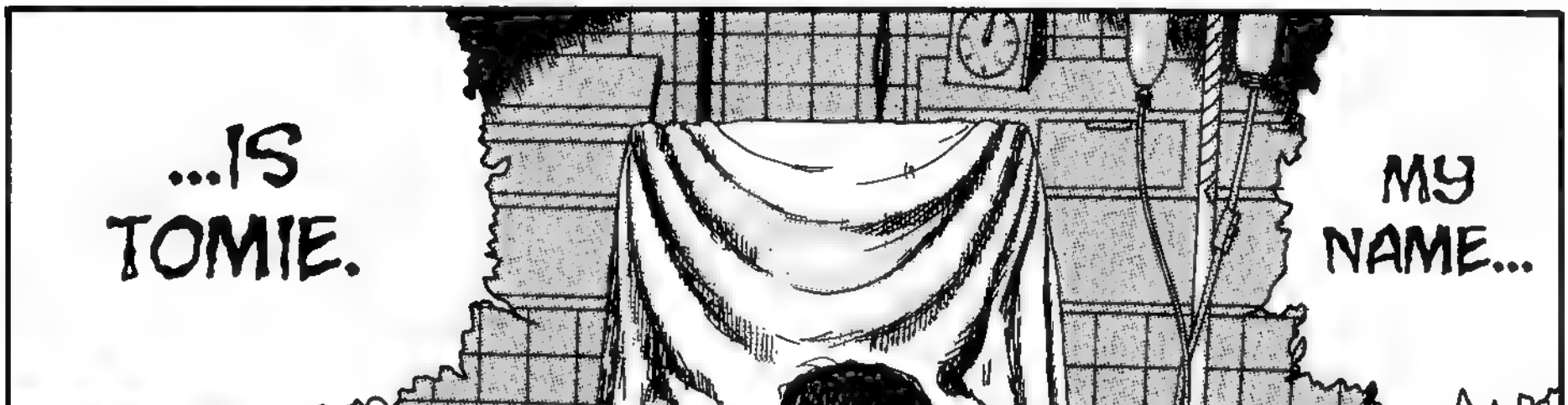
IF NOT, I HOPE IT REALLY IS A NIGHTMARE.

I JUST PRAY THAT THE X-RAY MACHINE IS GOING HAYWIRE ON US.

RATION IN PROGRESS

W-WHAT THE HELL...?





TOMIE PART 2: MORITA HOSPITAL / END

地
BASEMENT
下室

MORITA HOSP

THERE IS A KIDNEY, THEY SAY, THAT GREW LIMBS AND A HEAD.

RUMORS BEGAN TO SPREAD AMONG THE PATIENTS...

...STRANGE TALES OF UNSCHEDULED OPERATIONS... OF ORGANS REMOVED FROM PATIENTS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.

SURE.

OKAY, SATO. TIME FOR YOUR TEMPERATURE.

105

FUMIHITO SATO

THEY SAY EVEN NOW IT LURKS IN THE CELLAR, IN THE DARKNESS.

IT'S 97.7 DEGREES.

97.7...THAT'S BASICALLY IN ORDER. YOU'VE ALREADY GOT ONE FOOT OUT THE DOOR, I SEE.

DON'T BOTHER YOURSELF OVER THEM, SATO.

OH! *THOSE* RUMORS. HOW THE PATIENTS LOVE TO CHAT.

INCIDENTALLY, NURSE, YOU KNOW THOSE RUMORS?

RUMORS ?

105
FUMIHITO SATO
B-
TUM
GLANCE
CRIIAK
B-
TUM

QUIETLY, LIKE A CAT...

HMM... ISN'T THIS THE BASEMENT?

SUSPI-CIOUS...

YES... HMM.

SOME PATIENTS ARE SO SPOOKED THEY'RE ASKING TO TRANSFER TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL.

SUPPLIES

DIRECTOR, THE RUMORS ARE GETTING OUT OF CONTROL.

...A MAN MATERIALIZED WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE GIRL'S FATHER. HE CALLED HER "HANAKO." WHOEVER HE REALLY WAS...

WE HAD BEEN TREATING YUKIKO MIO, A PATIENT SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE KIDNEY AILMENT. HER BLOOD TYPE TURNED OUT TO BE THE SAME AS THE DEAD GIRL'S, WHICH MEANT WE COULD PERFORM A TRANSPLANT. AND NONE TOO SOON...

...ONE MONTH AGO WE RECEIVED THE BODY OF A TEENAGE GIRL. SHE HAD BEEN STABBED TO DEATH BY HER BOYFRIEND.

SO WE'RE ALL UP TO SPEED...

SO WE RUSHED IT TO TRANSPLANT. MEANWHILE, THE FATHER VANISHED JUST AS SUDDENLY AS HE'D APPEARED.

...HE GLADLY CONSENTED TO DONATE HER KIDNEY.

LIKE BUDS FROM A BULB, THE KIDNEY SPROUTED LIMBS AND A HEAD. AND NOW...

DAYS LATER, HOWEVER, THE KIDNEY BECAME A MONSTER WITHIN THE PATIENT'S OWN BODY.

THE OPERATION WAS A SUCCESS... AT FIRST.

THERE'S YOUR ABNORMAL KIDNEY!

...LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE.

BUT LOOK AT IT! WITHIN HOURS, IT BEGAN REGENERATING FROM WHERE IT WAS CUT.

AND THIS IS THE ABNORMALLY DEVELOPED HEAD THAT PENETRATED THE STOMACH.

STOMACH

KIDNEY

TO REMOVE IT FROM THE PATIENT'S BODY, WE HAD TO SEVER THE HEAD AT THE NECK.

IT'S ABSOLUTELY UNBELIEV-ABLE.

OF COURSE, FOR A KIDNEY TO REGENERATE THIS WAY...

THEY ALSO REGENERATE WHEN BISECTED. ONE WORM WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME TWO.

IT'S THE SAME PRINCIPLE.

DIRECTOR... YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH PLANARIA? FLATWORMS?

...THIS WAS ALL MY DOING.

I WAS IN SUCH A HURRY. SO DESPERATE TO OPERATE. YUKIKO MIO...

...I THINK I PASSED HER NAME ON MY WAY HERE.

I COULD BARELY MAKE THEM OUT, WHAT WITH THE WHISPERING... FROM WHAT I DID HEAR, THOUGH, IT SOUNDS LIKE THE RUMORS ARE TRUE.

SUPPLIES

YUKIKO MIO...

HELLO?

CREAK

AHA. THERE IT IS.

NO VISITORS

NO VISITORS?

TADASHI ?!

AH...

OH...I'M... EXCUSE ME. YOU SOUNDED LIKE...

WHO ARE YOU?

SORRY?

I HEARD YOU HAD AN OPERATION, SO I THOUGHT I'D PAY YOU A VISIT TO CHEER YOU UP.

ER... YES... I'M NOT IN PAIN ANYMORE.

YOU LOOK FINE, THOUGH.

HOW DO YOU DO?

ER... HOW'S IT GOING? I'M FUMIHITO SATO, FROM ROOM 105.

YEAH... WELL... I WAS ONCE.

YOU FRIENDS WITH TADASHI?

OH, I'M BEING RUDE.

THAT'S GOOD...WANT ME TO MAKE SOME TEA?

LET ME FIX SOME.

OH NO, SIT DOWN. IT'S FINE.

KA-CHAK

OH, HEY, SORRY... I WAS JUST...

HE JILTED YOU, HUH?

ONLY TWO DAYS AGO YOU CAME OUT OF AN OPERATION I WOULDN'T WISH ON ANYONE.

OOPS

WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP?

GOODNESS, YUKIKO?!

JUST GET IN BED. IF YOUR WOUND TEARS... WELL, YOU DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN.

NO VISITORS

THAT WAS CLOSE. I WONDER WHAT HE'D DO IF HE CAUGHT ME IN THERE.

BUT...IT DOESN'T HURT ANYMORE. REALLY.

OF COURSE IT DOESN'T. YOU'RE ALL HOPPED UP ON ANALGESICS, AS ANYONE IN YOUR CONDITION WOULD BE.

HER WOUND HAS ALREADY CLOSED. TWO DAYS ON, AND IT'S COMPLETELY HEALED OVER.

ON TOP OF THAT, I CAN'T KEEP HER STILL. THERE'S SOMETHING VERY STRANGE HERE.

IT'S INCREDIBLE, DR. TAMURA.

I MEAN, YUKIKO.

IT MIGHT HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE KIDNEY.

DR. TAMURA, DO YOU HAVE AN OPINION?

AFTER ALL, IT WAS IN HER FOR A WHOLE MONTH.

WE COULD BE LOOKING AT A SORT OF CANCER.

CANCER ...?

IF ANY TISSUES FROM THAT MONSTER REMAIN IN HER BODY...

THAT COULD BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. IT MEANS THAT HIGHLY REGENERATIVE CELLS ARE MINGLING WITH YUKIKO'S OWN.

TESTS REVEALED THAT THE CELLS FROM THE IMPLANTED KIDNEY HAD SPREAD THROUGHOUT YUKIKO'S BODY.

IT'S ODD THAT HER WOUND HAS HEALED...

...AND IF SHE DOES CARRY ANY CANCEROUS MATERIAL, HER LIFE COULD BE AT RISK.

IN ANY CASE, SHE'S DUE FOR AN EXAMINATION.

RATTA TRATTA TRAT

I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE'VE GOT TO CONSIDER ALL OUR OPTIONS. RADIOTHERAPY CAN BE EFFECTIVE AGAINST TRADITIONAL CANCERS...

FORGIVE ME, DIRECTOR, BUT WHAT MAKES YOU THINK GAMMA RAYS WILL DO ANYTHING?

THERE YOU ARE.

HEY, YUKIKO.

I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER THE PLACE.

YOU WEREN'T IN YOUR ROOM.

NOT MUCH, REALLY.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

IF I WERE, I MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO STAY FRIENDS WITH TADASHI FOREVER.

I WISH I WERE PRETTIER.

I...

SKRICH SKRICH

YOU'RE CHARMING.

I MEAN IT.

SKRICH SKRICH

I...I THINK YOU'RE ALREADY DARNED CUTE.

ER... UM... YEAH?

MY DAD'S A SAILOR... RIGHT NOW, HE'S OUT AT SEA. I CAN'T WAIT FOR HIM TO COME BACK.

THE RADIATION IS OUT! NEVER AGAIN!

THIS IS HORRIFIC.

LOOK!

SUPPLIES

DR. TAMURA!

IT HAD THE OPPOSITE EFFECT!

INSTEAD OF BEING DESTROYED, IT'S DEVELOPING FASTER.

YES?

DR. TAMURA...

DOCTOR ...

DOCTOR... WILL YOU REMOVE ME FROM HERE?

IT'S TALKING...

G-C

HE'S BEEN WATCHING ME FROM THAT CABINET. HE FRIGHTENS ME.

HE'S AFTER ME.

A MAN HAS BEEN WATCHING ME...FOR A LONG TIME.

...SO HAND-SOME.

AHH, DOCTOR... YOU ARE...

I LOVE YOU...I FELL FOR YOU THE MOMENT I SAW YOU.

I AM TOMIE, DR. TAMURA.

WHO ARE YOU?!

DIRECTOR, LET'S GET OUT!

...HOLD ME GENTLY.

SO PLEASE TAKE ME OUT...AND...

SHUT UP!

KISS ME...

DIRECTOR... TO BE HONEST, IT TERRIFIES ME...

HUFF HUFF

K-CHAK K-CHAK

BUT DR. TAMURA...

WE SHOULD CLOSE OFF THE BASEMENT.

I FEEL THE SAME WAY.

...I DON'T WANT TO LOOK AT IT ANYMORE.

BE IT AN ANTICANCER DRUG OR HEAT THERAPY, IT MUST HAVE A WEAKNESS.

TO FIND A PROPER TREATMENT FOR YUKIKO, WE NEED THAT MONSTER.

DR. TAMURA!

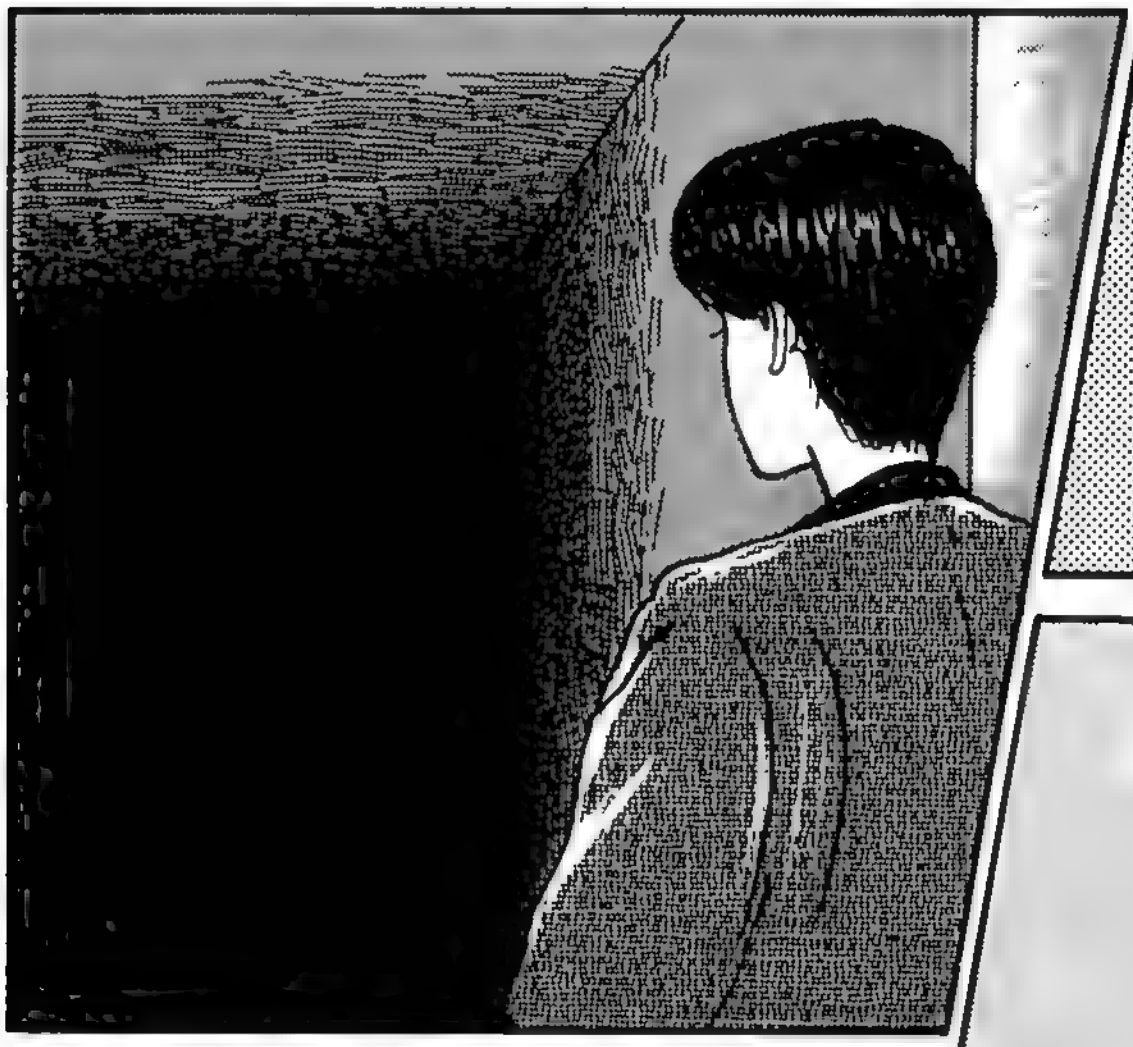
THEN HOW ABOUT YOU WORK ON IT ON YOUR OWN FROM HERE.

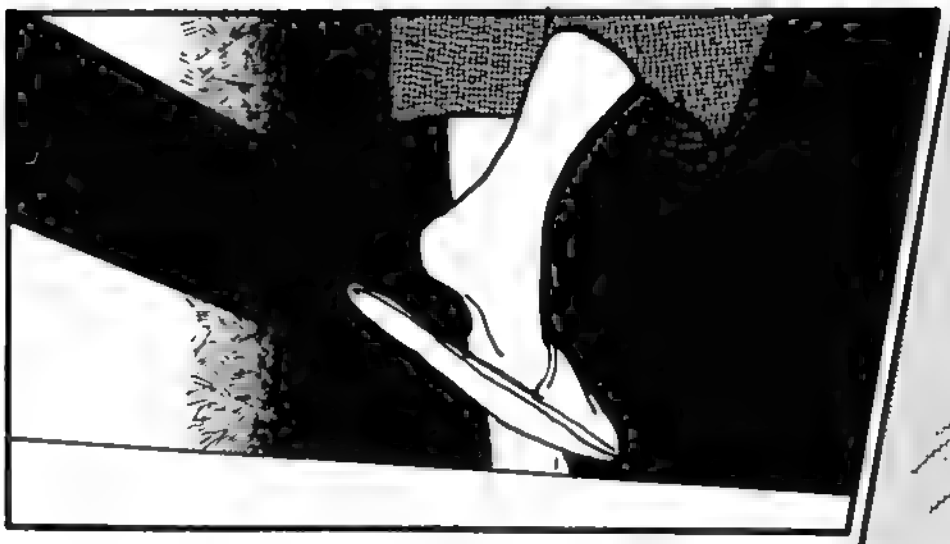
WITHOUT IT, WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DESTROY THE TISSUES LURKING INSIDE THAT GIRL'S BODY.

I DON'T WANT ANY PART OF IT.

WELL, DIRECTOR ...

MORITA





WITH LUCK, TONIGHT ALL WILL BE REVEALED...

SUPPLIES

SURE IS DARK...

TEP TEP TEP TEP

OR... SOME-THING.

THERE'S SOME-ONE INSIDE.

KA-TUNG

HUH!

CHAKKA CHAKKA

URK!

KA-CHAK

KA-CHAK

KCHIK...KCHIK...KCHIK CLAKK

CHIH

KCHIK...KCHIK...

THIS IS BAD.

SUPPLIES

GA-CHAK

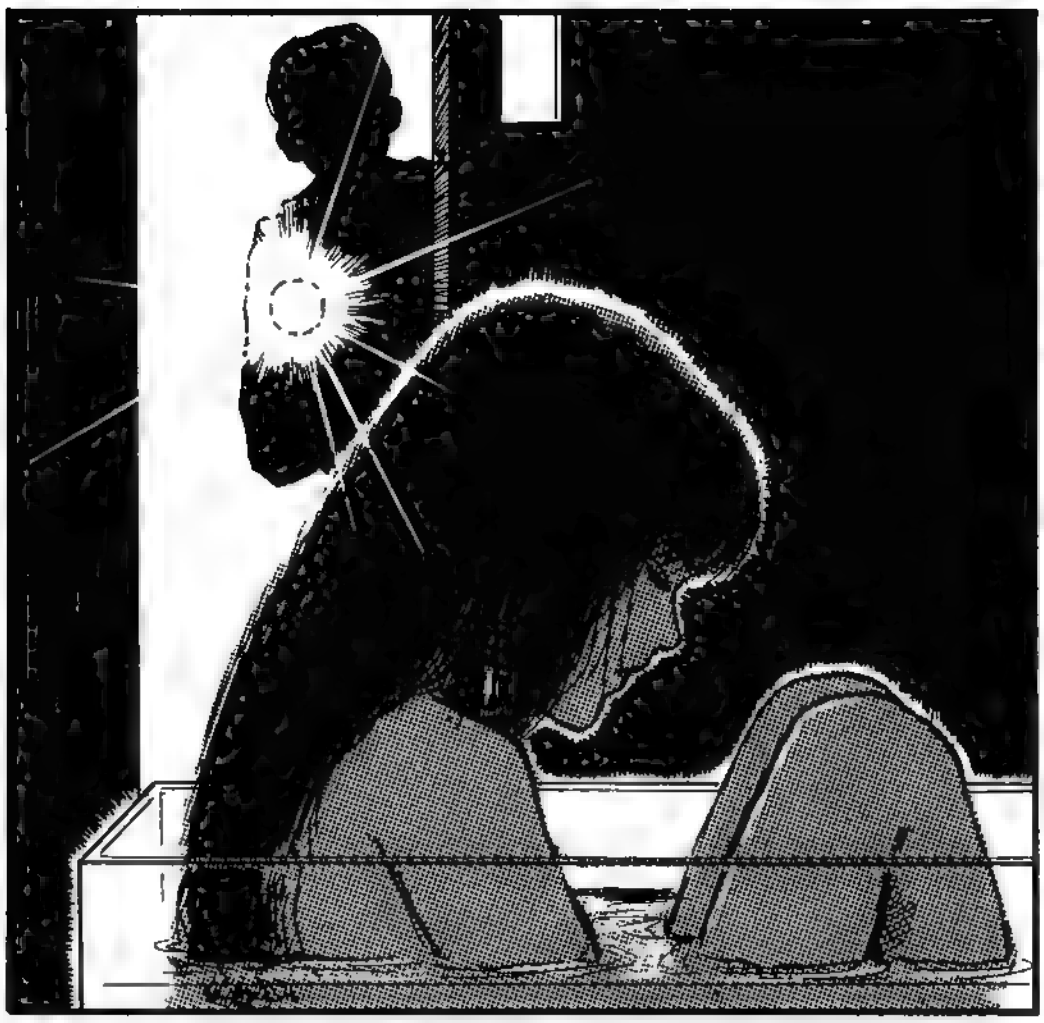
TEP TEP

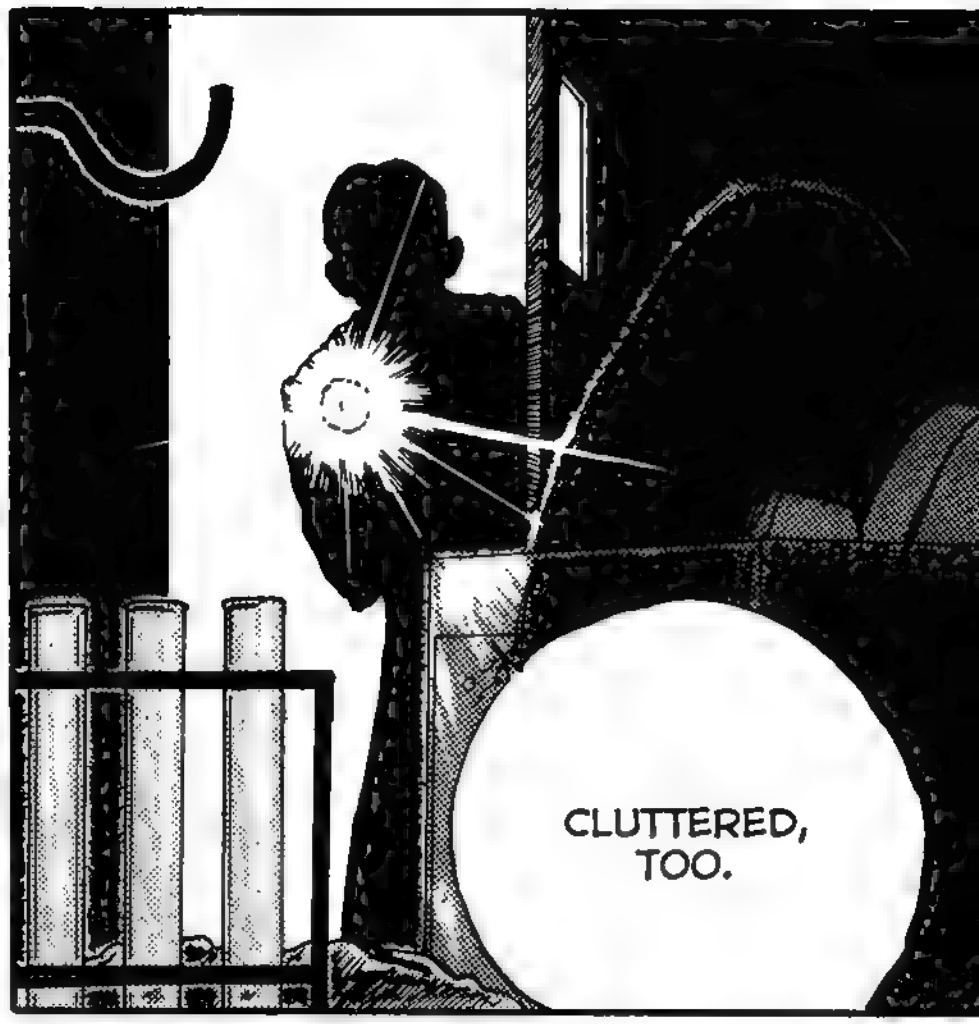
WHO'S HE?

CREAK

IT'S PITCH-BLACK IN HERE.

KLIK




CLUTTERED, TOO.

SRI-T SRI-T

I...DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE... BATHING...

PARDON ME...!

...THIS CREEPS ME OUT. I'M BETTER OFF IN BED.

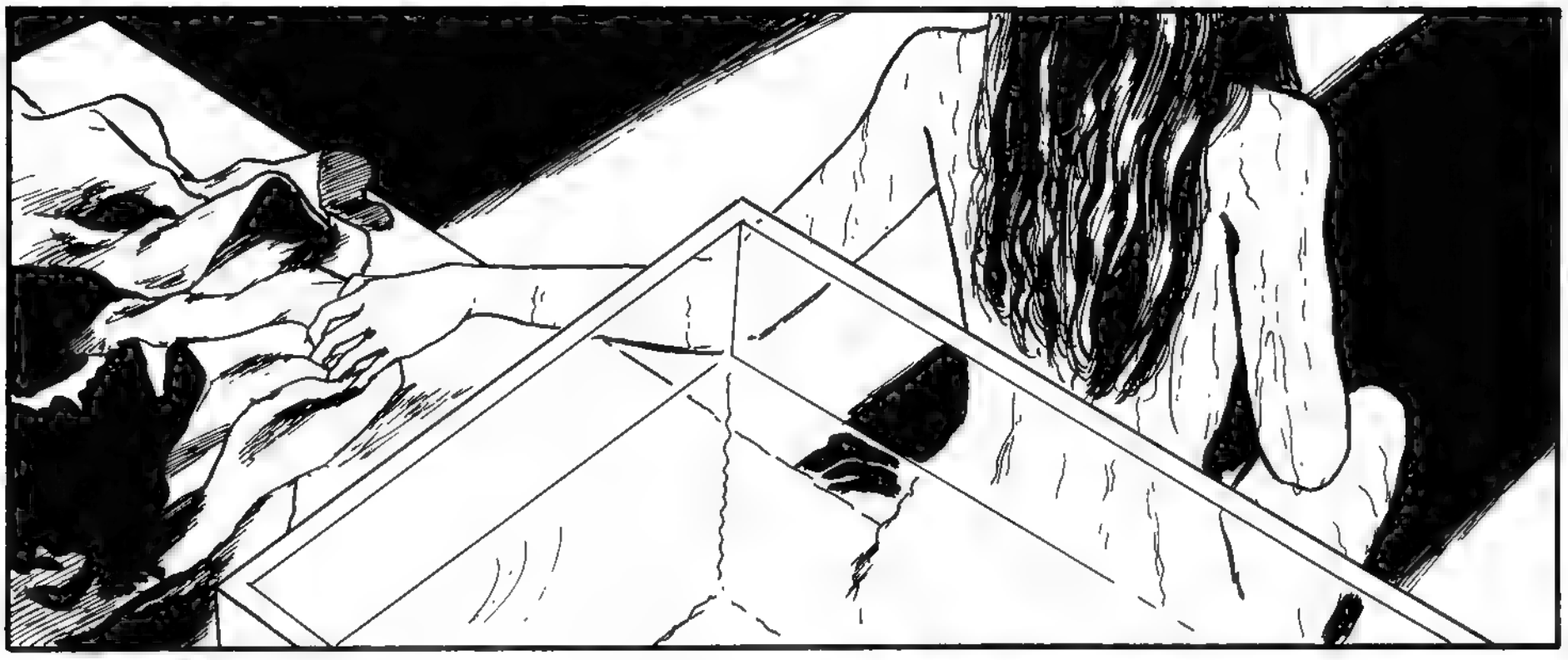
...BUT OF ALL THE PLACES TO TAKE A BATH...

ARRGH, RUNNING'S BAD. OKAY.

I'M NOT FULLY HEALED YET. DUMB APPENDIX...

FLED

SPLISH



PLAP PLAP PLAP PLAP

SHFF

PLAP PLAP PLAP

201
YUKIO

IT'S ME... REMEMBER ME?

...
...

HRM? WHO...?

YUKIKO...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

!

Y-YOU...

AS FAR AS TADASHI IS CONCERNED, I DID YOU A FAVOR.

WHAT A RECEPTION.

ABOUT TADASHI...

YEAH...

I'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU.

AND AFTER I WAS KIND ENOUGH TO VISIT.

KEEP AWAY FROM ME!

YOU KNOW HE TRIED TO KILL ME?

I'VE A HUNCH IT WAS YOUR IDEA, THOUGH.

YEAH. PIPE DOWN.

MRFF!

WHAT THE...?

PIPE DOWN!

WHAT'S THE TROUBLE?!

YUKIKO, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

AAH! HAA!

YOU! STEP AWAY FROM THE GIRL!

AH!

ANSWER ME!

TUG

WHAT DID YOU DO TO HER?!

MY GOD! SHE'S...

SO... BEAUTIFUL ...

YOU MUST BE...

Y-YOU'RE THE...

YES. WHEN I CAME IN THIS MORNING, THE CULTURE TANK WAS EMPTY, EXCEPT FOR THE SOLUTION.

GONE?!

WE SAW HOW QUICKLY IT DEVELOPED BEFORE. COULD IT HAVE SIMPLY WALKED OUT?

COULD IT BE...

THE HEAD'S GONE MISSING?!

I DIDN'T SEE A THING.

MAYBE. BUT I HAD A LATE SHIFT HERE, ALL LAST NIGHT.

...AN EXTREMELY ALLURING ONE.

AND YET...

OH, DOCTOR... WHAT A LOVELY CONDO.

LISTEN. UNTIL I RETURN, YOU DON'T LEAVE THIS ROOM. UNDERSTAND?

YOU'RE TELLING ME.

ONE DAY, AND IT FULLY REGENERATED ITSELF. ONE DAY!

WHAT AN UNGODLY MONSTER!

CHANGES?

WELL...

INCIDENTALLY, DIRECTOR, ABOUT YUKIKO MIO...

HAVE YOU NOTICED ANY... CHANGES IN HER CONDITION?

I SAW SOMETHING... UNUSUAL.

GOOD MORNING, YUKIKO.

WHEN I STOPPED BY HER ROOM THIS MORNING...

YOU...UH... YOU *ARE* YUKIKO, CORRECT?

YOU SEEM... TALLER, SOMEHOW.

GOOD MORNING.

ALSO, DOCTOR, SEE HERE...

...HAS MY HAIR ALWAYS BEEN SO GORGEOUS ?!

OH, YOU NOTICED IT TOO? DR. TAMURA...

I THINK I *AM* TALLER. I DON'T KNOW WHY.

I MEAN, ABOUT THE EFFECT OF THESE "TOMIE" CELLS UPON YUKIKO MIO.

DIRECTOR... PERHAPS WE WERE ON THE WRONG TRACK.

I COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EYES.

SHE LOOKED COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.

FAR FROM SINKING INTO THE DEPTHS OF A TERMINAL, INCURABLE CANCER...

IF ANYTHING, SHE'S HEALTHIER AND PRETTIER THAN BEFORE.

...YUKIKO MIO HAS UNDERGONE A MIRACLE RECOVERY.

HEY, SATO!

I'M... ASTON-ISHED...

...I'M LIKE A DIFFER-ENT PERSON.

EVERY-ONE TELLS ME...

HUH...? IS THAT... YUKIKO?

YEAH. SURPRISED, HUH?

OF COURSE, WE NEED TO DO MORE RESEARCH.

DR. TAMURA, ARE YOU TELLING ME..."TOMIE" HERE CURED HER ILLNESS?

IT SEEMS ITS REGENERATIVE POWER HAS A POSITIVE EFFECT ON THE HUMAN BODY.

I WAS SICK AND TIRED. I HATED MY LIFE.

WHEN I WAS SHORT AND PLAIN, I WAS A TARGET. EVERYONE PUSHED ME AROUND.

SOME RADICAL CHANGES ARE TAKING PLACE INSIDE ME!

SATO, I'M STARTING TO FEEL REALLY CONFIDENT.

THIS IS JUST THE START OF HOW PRETTY I CAN GET.

BUT NO MORE. THINGS ARE DIFFERENT.

I'D RUN AND TUMBLE THROUGH A PRISTINE, GRASSY MEADOW WITH MY BOYFRIEND.

YOU KNOW... I'VE HAD THIS DREAM FOR AGES.

LIKE YOU SEE IN MOVIES AND COMMERCIALS.

THAT'S GOOD FOR YOU...

...I WOULDN'T MIND IF YOU CAME ALONG.

BUT...

IN MY DREAMS, IT WAS ALWAYS WITH TADASHI.

AND...TO BE FRANK, I FIND THIS SUDDEN CHANGE IN ATTITUDE REALLY DISAPPOINTING.

I'M NOT MUCH GOOD AT FILLING OTHER PEOPLE'S SHOES, YOU KNOW.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

WHAT? OH... WELL.

YOU...!

ARE YOU TELLING ME I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR YOU ANYMORE?

YOU TALK AS IF LOOKS WERE EVERYTHING. WELL, I'D TAKE THE FRIZZLE-HEADED YUKIKO ANY DAY.

AT BEST YOU'VE GOT THE WORST TASTE EVER!

ARE YOU BLIND OR JUST STUPID?!

... ...

HEY, WAIT!

THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. I'M LEAVING.

AND AFTER I WAS NICE ENOUGH TO THINK OF YOU...

STUFF IT! AND QUIT FOLLOWING ME!

1F

OW-WOW-WOWCH... APPENDIX...

WILL YOU WAIT?!

REALLY, ARE YOU YUKIKO?

HEY, LISTEN!

HA HA HA! SERVES YOU RIGHT, CREEP!

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE A DIFFERENT PERSON.

WHAT IS SHE, BIPOLAR?

HEE HEE HEE... YEAH, I GUESS THAT'S THE POINT, ISN'T IT.

I'M GOING TO BECOME GORGEOUS.

A DIFFERENT PERSON?

JUST GO.

I'VE GOT NO BUSINESS WITH YOU.

ONLY YESTERDAY, YOU WERE A GENTLE GIRL. QUIET AND KIND.

YUKIKO, WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU?

THEN I'M GOING TO CLEAN UP AND TRACK DOWN TADASHI.

TOMOR-ROW I'LL BE DIS-CHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL.

YOU HEAR THAT?!

KNOCK IT OFF!

HAA... HUH.

AH HA HA HA HA!

201

... ...

NOW THERE'S A MAN IN TUNE WITH BEAUTY! COMPARED TO HIM, YOU'RE NOT EVEN A RUNNER-UP!

YOU'RE LAUGHABLE! AH HA HA HA!

I...

WHY AM I SAYING SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS?

BUT REALLY ...

...WHAT'S GOING ON WITH ME?

HOSPITAL

THIS FACE...!

THIS FACE.

WE'VE DONE OUR ROUNDS FOR THE DAY. SO LET'S GET STARTED.

ALL RIGHT.

SUPPLIES

THIS COULD BE A TURNING POINT IN THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE.

YOU KNOW, WE MAY EVEN CHANGE THE WORLD.

TOMIE!!

AH!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! I TOLD YOU NOT TO LEAVE MY CONDO!

KOA

NO!

KREE-EEEE!

DIRECTOR! FIRE EXTINGUISHER!

YOU... BITCH!

THE EXTINGUISHER! IT USED TO BE RIGHT HERE...

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

THIS IS OUR RESEARCH MATERIAL! IT'S PRICELESS!

MY HOSPITAL... MY PRECIOUS HOSPITAL!

COME ON! WHAT'S SO PRECIOUS ABOUT A MONSTER?

OH, DR. TAMURA. LET'S FORGET ABOUT ALL THIS DREADFUL BUSINESS. COME ON BACK TO OUR CONDO...

SLAP

SHUT UP!

...I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE BUT TO USE *YOU* FOR MY RESEARCH.

AT THIS POINT...

DON'T YOU SEE I LOVE YOU?

STOP IT...

HMPH... IT WASN'T ME.

WHERE DID YOU FIND THIS?

SSST

IT'S A CINDER.

UH-OH... WHAT DID SHE DO NOW?!

THERE GOES MY PLAN.

DR. TAMURA, HOW'S THE FIRE?

OH WELL.

THE DOCTORS WERE SUPPOSED TO STUDY TOMIE.

SKRIK SKRIK

I'M STILL IN TIME!

D-DR. TAMURA... WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?!

AH...

AND YOU! WHAT'RE YOU DOING...? WHO ARE YOU?

FLURSH

FLORSH

!

HEY, DOC...I'M HANAKO'S OLD MAN. THAT KIDNEY DO YA ANY GOOD?

Y-YOU!

OH, WAIT!

GOOD... GLAD TO HEAR IT.

PFOOP

GWAAH!

SNIP

WHOA!

FIRE! FIRE!

WUH ?

KOOH

HEHEHE

IF

NO WAY... FIRE? WHERE'D THAT COME FROM? WHERE DO I GO?

COME ON...

YUKIKO! THERE'S A FIRE!

IT'S OPEN...

QUICK! EYAAHHH!

THIS WAY!

YUKIKO, YOU THERE? THERE'S A FIRE! WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE!

BAM BAM

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS...

MY NAME ISN'T YUKIKO.

BUT...

I'M TOMIE... REMEMBER THAT.

FWOOSH

THERE WAS NONE OF YUKIKO LEFT TO SEE. THERE WAS ONLY TOMIE.

AND SO, ONCE MORE, TOMIE WAS IN CONTROL.

DON'T ASK ME.
MIYAMOTO, WHERE'S THE DIRECTOR ?
IS THE THIRD FLOOR CLEAR?
YES!
KAFF KAFF

THUMP

THE NEXT MORNING, THREE BLACKENED BODIES WERE RECOVERED FROM THE BASEMENT.

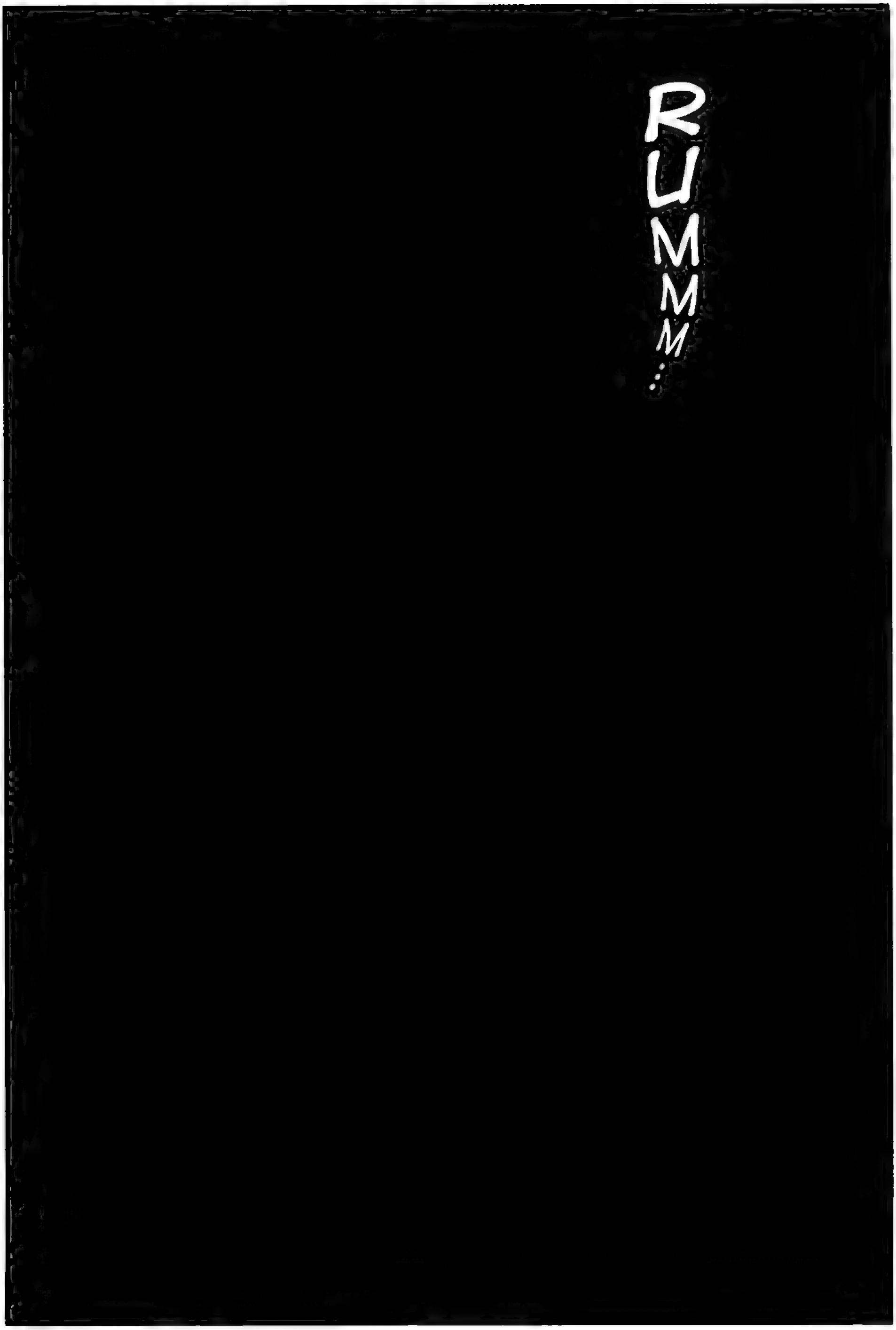
THE DIRECTOR, DR. TAMURA, AND A THIRD...AN UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN.

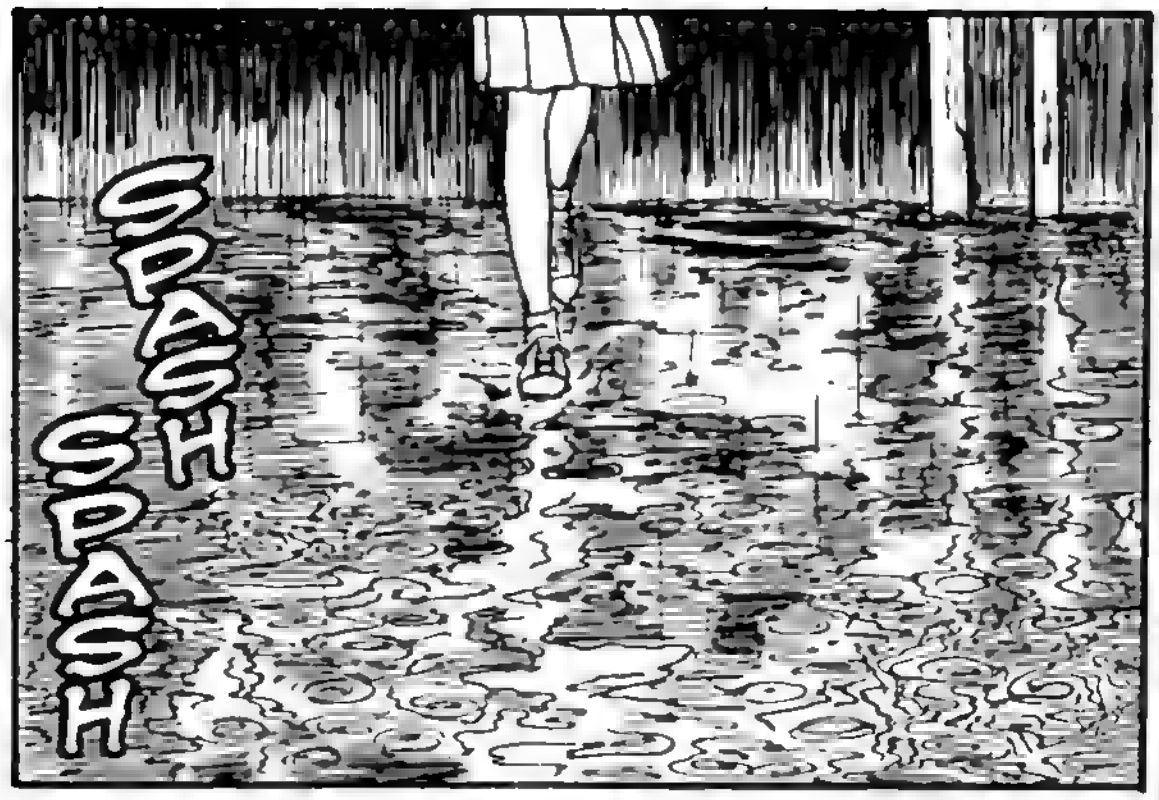
SO THE CURSED MORITA HOSPITAL CLOSED, LEAVING ITS MYSTERIES AND ITS RUMORS BURIED IN THE SCORCHED DUST.

AS TIME PASSED, SEVERAL NURSES WHO HAD ONCE WORKED AT THE HOSPITAL MET UNEXPECTED AND MYSTERIOUS DEATHS.

YUKIKO MIO...WHAT BECAME OF YOU?

写真
PHOTO


RUMMM...


SPASH
SPASH

RUMM...

I'LL GET IT.

HUH...? WHO COULD IT BE?

DING DONG

WHY DON'T YOU GO TO BED, DAD?

WHAT A GLOOMY NIGHT.

FLASH

OH MY! YOU POOR DEAR. PLEASE, COME IN.

I GOT CAUGHT IN THE RAIN...I'M... LOOKING FOR SHELTER... JUST FOR THE NIGHT...

I'M SORRY ...

HELLO ?

YES? WHO IS IT?

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

A FEW MONTHS LATER...

HANADAGAOKA HIGH SCHOOL

IT'S FANTAS-TIC!

YEAH. YEAH, THIS IS GOOD.

MICHIKO! THE PHOTO'S READY!

IT'S ONLY A PICTURE. ONE-WAY RELATIONSHIPS ARE THE PITS, AREN'T THEY? I GUESS I SHOULD KNOW. HEH.

NOW MY DARLING BOY, KUSAKAWA, IS MINE AT LAST.

OH, YOU THINK?

YOU *DO* BELONG IN THE PHOTO CLUB, TSUKIKO!

MUCH OBLIGED!

HERE'S YOUR 3,000 YEN...YOU'RE KIND OF PUSHING IT, THOUGH.

YOU'RE A CRIMINAL.

AFTER ALL, I'M A BUDDING PROFESSIONAL. ANYONE ELSE, THAT WOULD BE MORE LIKE 10,000 YEN. I DON'T DO CHEAP.

SEE YA 'ROUND.

YOU GOT IT EASY. CALL IT A SPECIAL BUDDY DISCOUNT.

MY FRIENDS TELL ME WHICH BOYS THEY'RE INTO. I SNAP THEIR PICTURES, THEN CHARGE THROUGH THE TEETH.

I ALSO SELL DREAMS TO THE PATHETIC AND THE LOVESICK.

I'M TSUKIKO IZUMISAWA.

I HANG AROUND WITH THE PHOTO CLUB.

YAMAZAKI... AND HE'S ALONE! COULDN'T BE BETTER.

TRACK & FIELD CLUB

OH!

URM... HEY, YAMAZAKI!

YOU REMEMBERED, THAT'S NICE...

OH...YOU... THE ONE FROM THE PHOTO CLUB.

HUH?

YAMAZAKI!

WELL, THE THING IS...

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TODAY?

A DIFFERENT GIRL ENTIRELY. YOU'RE JUST THAT POPULAR.

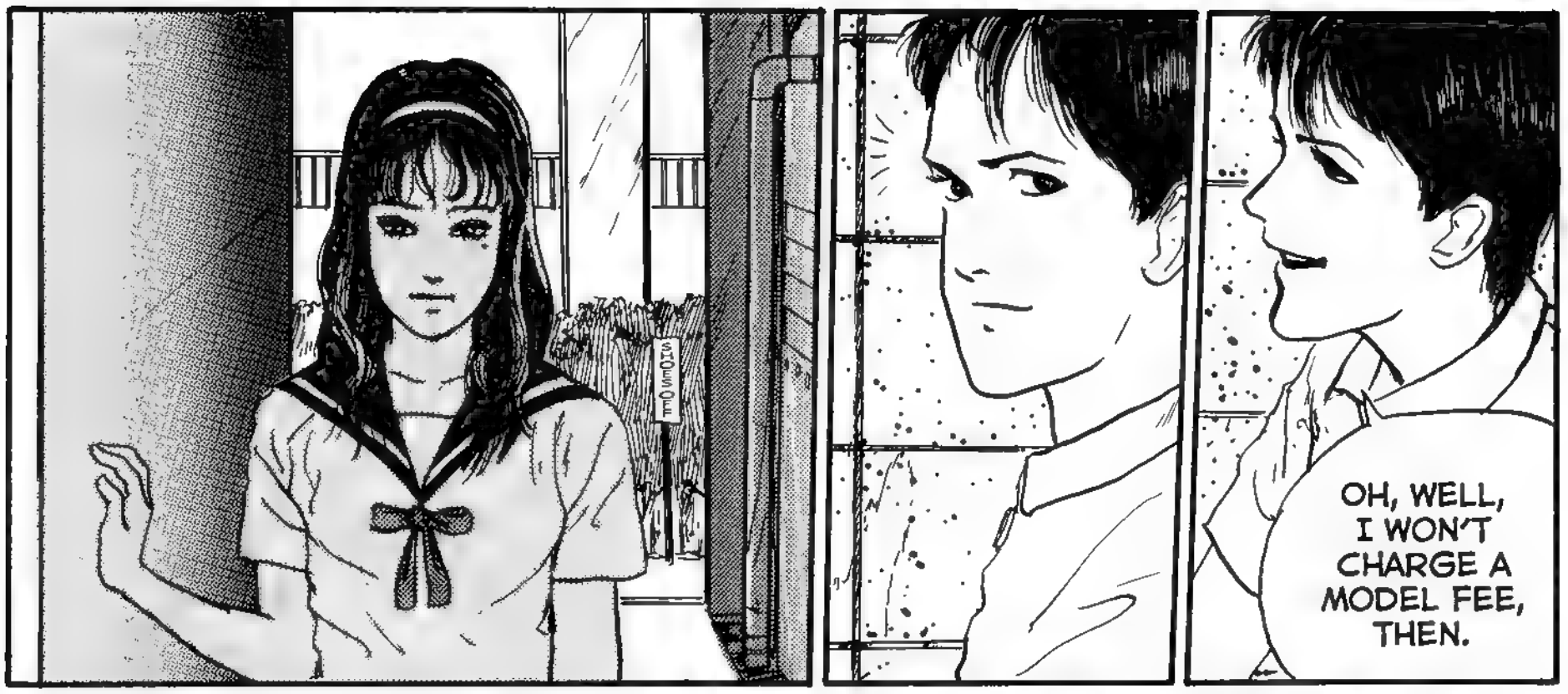
THERE'S ANOTHER GIRL WHO WANTS YOUR PICTURE.

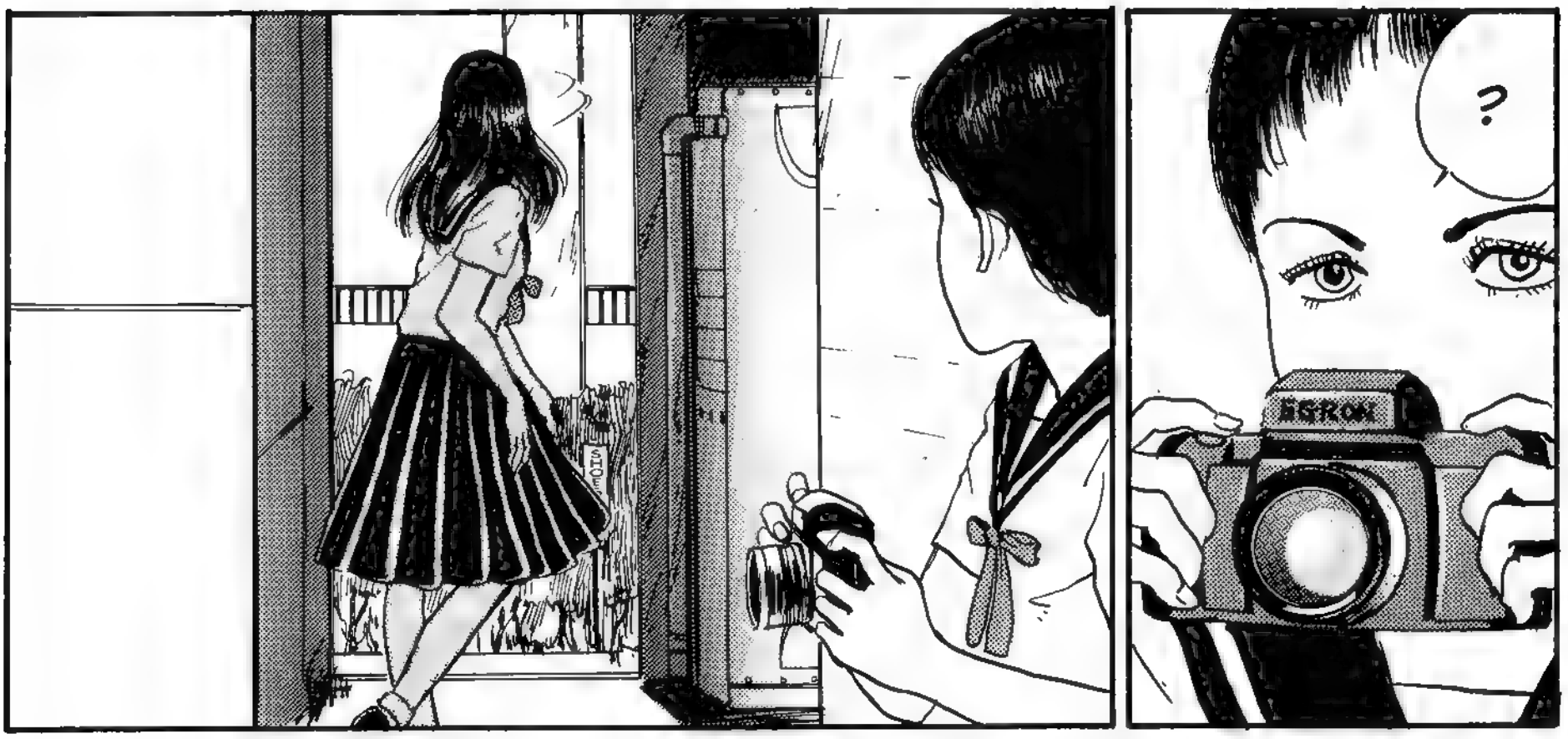
THAT'S GREAT!

...REALLY, NOW? I DON'T WANT TO MAKE YOUR LIFE DIFFICULT. HEY, HOW ABOUT A POSE THIS TIME?

OH NO. THIS IS STRICTLY PRO BONO.

WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A BUSINESS OF IT?


SHOES OFF
OH, WELL, I WON'T CHARGE A MODEL FEE, THEN.


SHOES OFF
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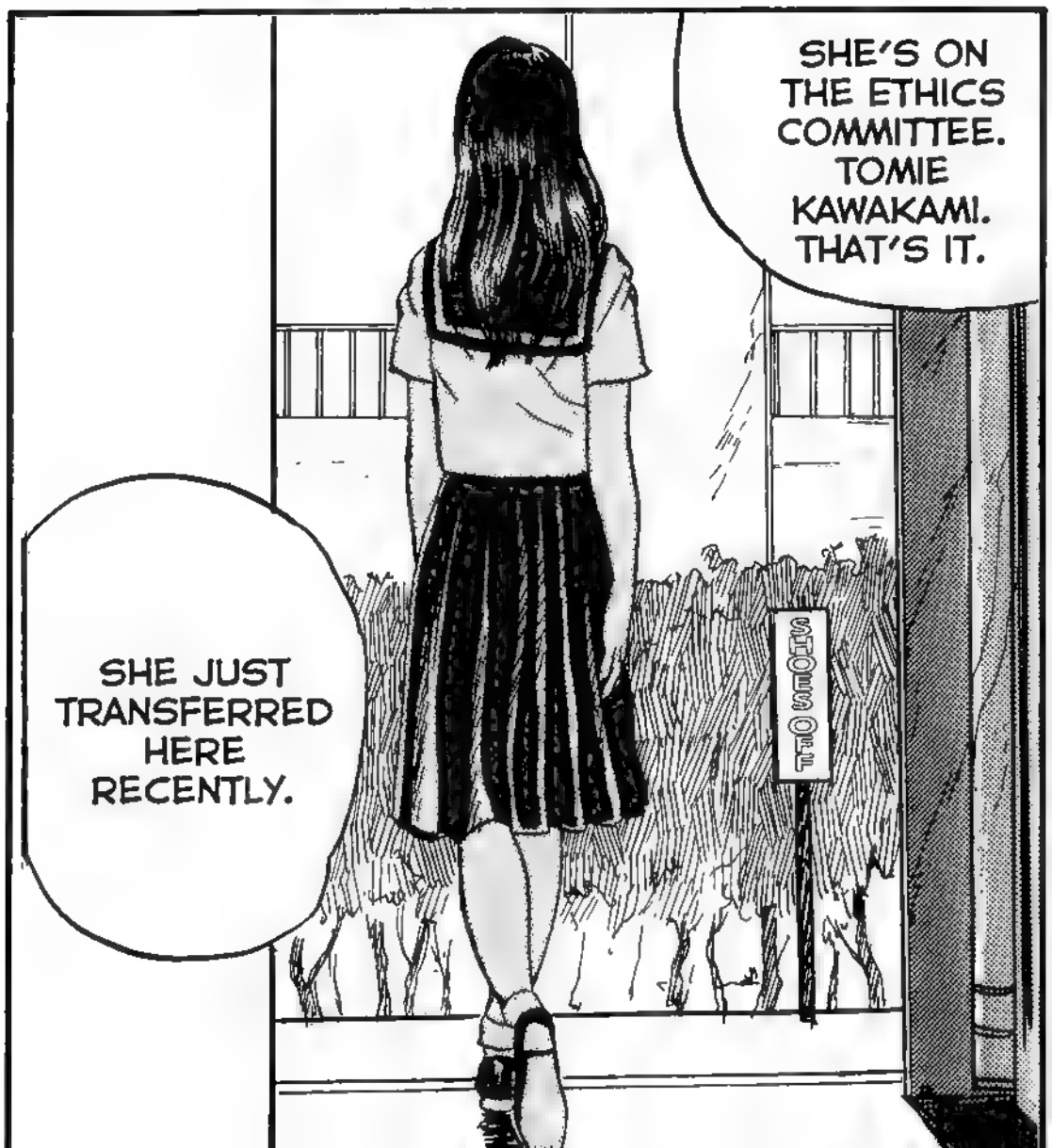

SHE'S ON THE ETHICS COMMITTEE. TOMIE KAWAKAMI. THAT'S IT.
SHE JUST TRANSFERRED HERE RECENTLY.
SHOES OFF

WHO'S SHE?
ER... THAT, I THINK...

TEE HEE HEE. THAT WAS A LUCKY STRIKE.

SO I LIED A LITTLE. IT WAS WHITE, I HOPE. GRAY, MAYBE.

TEE HEE. I LOVE YOU.

MY COLLEC-TION IS MUSH-ROOMING, YAMAZAKI...♡

AH, WELL. I GUESS EVERY MAN TO HIS TASTE, AS THEY SAY...

...CHIYO AND MAA.

NOW, BACK TO BUSINESS. TOMORROW, I'VE GOT...

BUT HONESTLY, MAA, CAN'T YOU DO ANY BETTER?

YOU DON'T LIKE IT, I DON'T HAVE TO SELL.

THAT'S EXTORTION! WHERE'S YOUR COMMON DECENCY?

GET REAL!!

WHAAAT?! TEN THOUSAND YEN?!

MAA'S IS LOW ON THE CHARTS, BUT YOURS, CHIYO, IS CLASS A.

THAT'S CRAZY!

WHY SHOULD I PAY TWICE THAT?!

FLP FLP

BUT IT'S TERRIBLE! MAA PAID 5,000 YEN FOR HER GUY!

EXCUSE ME... TSUKIKO?

DOESN'T IT SEEM RATHER UNETHICAL, OR AT LEAST AGAINST SCHOOL SPIRIT?

WHAT EXACTLY... DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

TOMIE...

WHAT IF THE TEACHERS FIND OUT?

I MEAN, REALLY. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THOSE POOR GIRLS, NOT TO MENTION THE BOYS YOU PHOTOGRAPH.

WHY...WHY, SURE. THIS IS JUST FOR FUN.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT, TSUKIKO?

HMPH.

NO, TOMIE. SEE, YOU GOT IT ALL WRONG. TSUKIKO ISN'T SELLING ANYTHING. SHE WAS JUST SHOWING ME SOME PICTURES.

HEY!
LET GO!
CUT IT OUT!
GOT IT.
TAICHI, CHECK TSUKIKO'S BAG. SHE MIGHT HAVE MORE FOR SALE.
YOU DON'T FOOL ME. WHAT DID YOU SAY THE PRICE WAS...10,000 YEN?
BINGO... HEY, TOMIE.
THAT'S PRIVATE PROPERTY! WHAT AUTHORITY...
OOO, THERE'RE SO MANY.

GIVE THEM BACK. THEY'RE IMPORTANT TO ME.

TUMP

...BUT I'LL LET YOU OFF THE HOOK THIS TIME.

TAICHI, KIMATA, LET'S GO.

BEING AN ETHICS COMMITTEE MEMBER, I REALLY SHOULD REPORT THIS...

MY HANDS ARE TIED. THEY'VE BEEN CONFISCATED NOW.

... ...

WELL... YEAH. SHE EVEN TOOK THE NEGATIVES.

WERE THEY OF YAMAZAKI?

WHY, WHAT'S WRONG WITH HIM? SURE HE DOESN'T LOVE ME NOW, BUT—

HMM. REALLY, TSUKIKO, THAT ONE'S NO GOOD.

WHAT A BITCH! WHERE DOES SHE GET OFF, WITH HER ESCORTS AND HER NOSE IN THE AIR? DOES SHE THINK SHE'S ROYALTY? SO WHAT IF SHE'S WITH THE ETHICS COMMITTEE? THAT'S MY PROPERTY SHE TOOK!

MAYBE SHE THINKS SHE HAS TO PATROL THE SCHOOL. BUT THIS ISN'T LIKE *NERAWARETA GAKUEN**, FOR GOD'S SAKE.

...BUT WHO KNOWS. FROM WHAT I HEAR, SHE'S ALREADY BEEN MAKING WAVES.

NO, I MEAN TOMIE KAWAKAMI. I DON'T TRUST HER AT ALL. SHE SAID SHE WON'T REPORT IT...

OKAY... I'LL FEIGN IGNORANCE. SHE'S GOT NO PROOF ANYWAY.

OH, NO. MAA, DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THIS.

REMEMBER HAYASHI, FROM CLASS D? HE GOT EXPELLED THE OTHER DAY.

APPARENTLY, THAT WAS HER DOING.

* *NERAWARETA GAKUEN* (PSYCHIC SCHOOL WAR) IS A SCIENCE FICTION NOVEL BY TAKU MAYUMURA, LATER ADAPTED INTO VARIOUS TELEVISION AND THEATRICAL MOVIES.

YOU SEE WHY I'M SO IRRITATED.

IS THAT WHAT HAP-PENED?

YEAH, YEAH. LITTLE LIES FOR LITTLE CRIMES, RIGHT?

HEY, MICHIKO— WE'RE PALS, RIGHT? IF THIS GETS OUT, YOU'LL STICK UP FOR ME?

ANYWAY, NOW I'VE GOT A REASON TO WORRY.

HE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU.

HUH?

TSUKIKO.

SORRY. I DIDN'T THINK YOU'D STILL BE EATING.

IT'S OKAY. ER... WHAT'S UP?

OH... YAMA-ZAKI.

B- BMP

TAK

YEAH?

B- BMP B- BMP

I WANTED TO ASK...

I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

IT'S ABOUT THE PICTURES.

URM... WHAT IS IT...?

B- BLIMP B- BLIMP B- BLIMP B- BLIMP

I'M... TOTALLY FLOORED.

THIS IS AWFUL.

HE DOESN'T GET IT. YAMAZAKI. HE DOESN'T GET IT AT ALL.

...THAT *BITCH?!*

URRH! WHY DO I HAVE TO DO HIS DIRTY WORK? WHAT'S MY PROBLEM, ANYWAY?

IT'S OVER...

FOR THAT MATTER, WHY DOES HE WANT A PICTURE OF THAT...

...WILL RECORD ITS FINAL CHAPTER TONIGHT.

Whatever, dammit.

MY DIARY, IN WHICH I HAVE SO DILIGENTLY ENSCONCED MY AFFECTION...

SO WHERE'S THE BITCH?

K-
CHAA

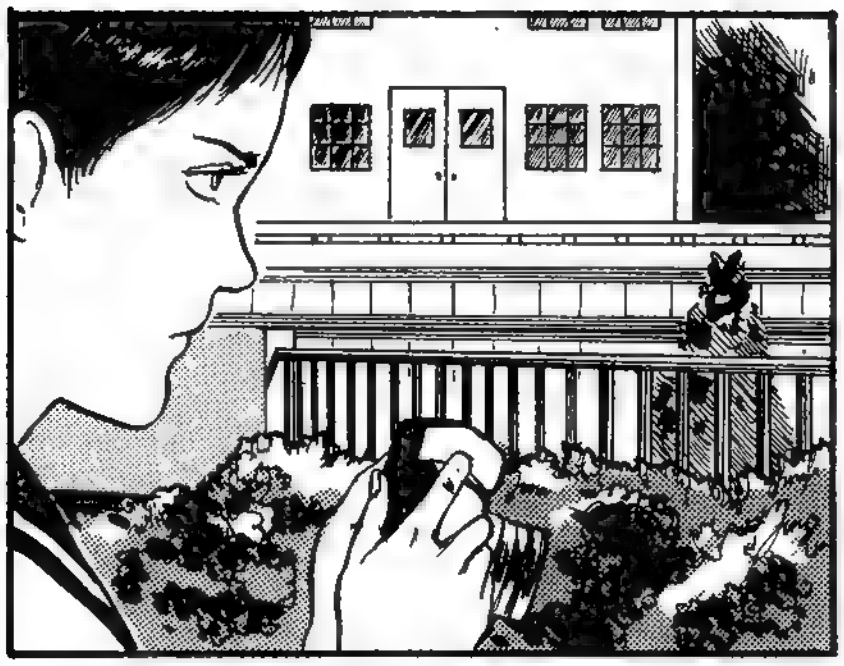
K-
CHAA
K-
CHAA

K-
CHAA

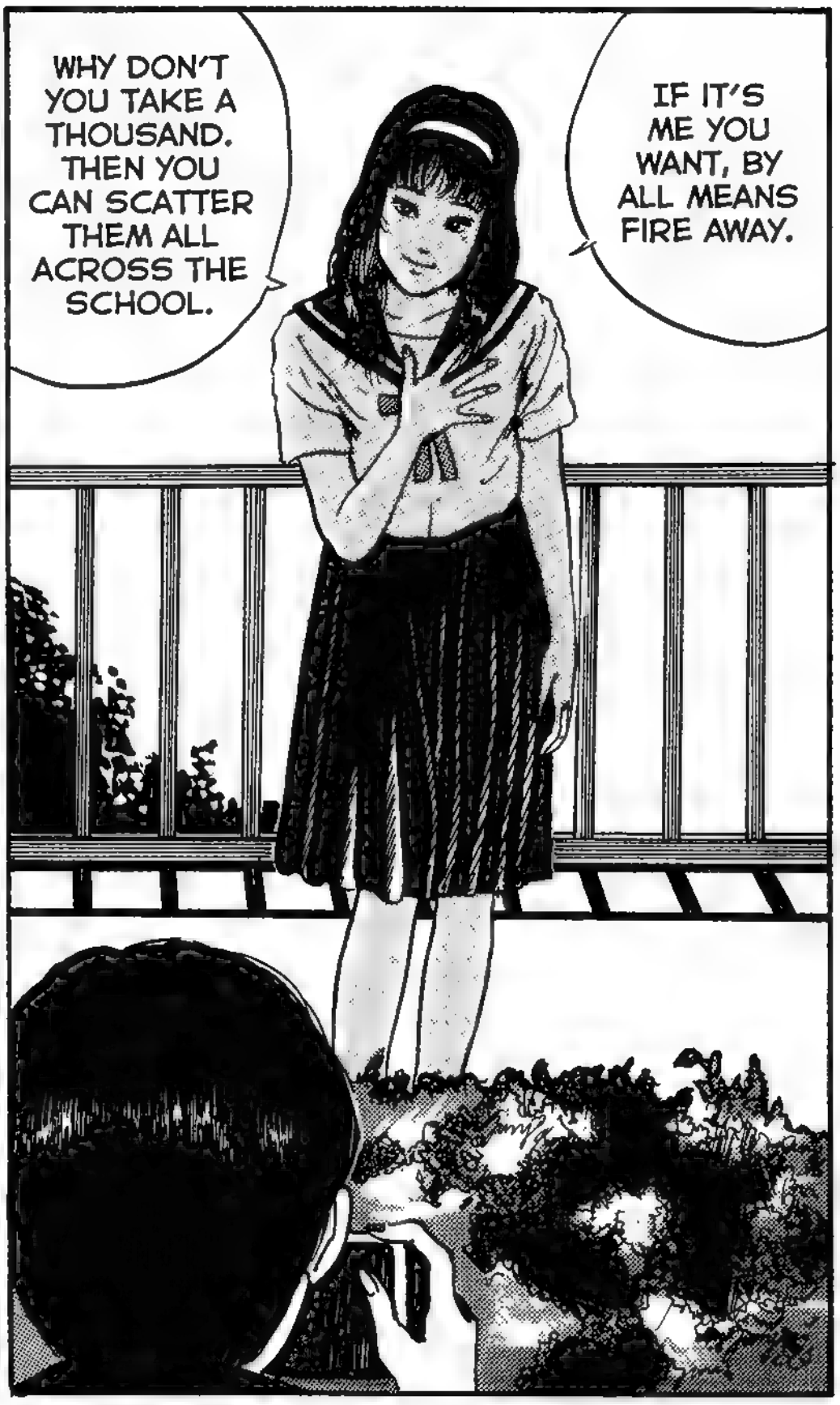
THIS IS MY BEST SIDE.

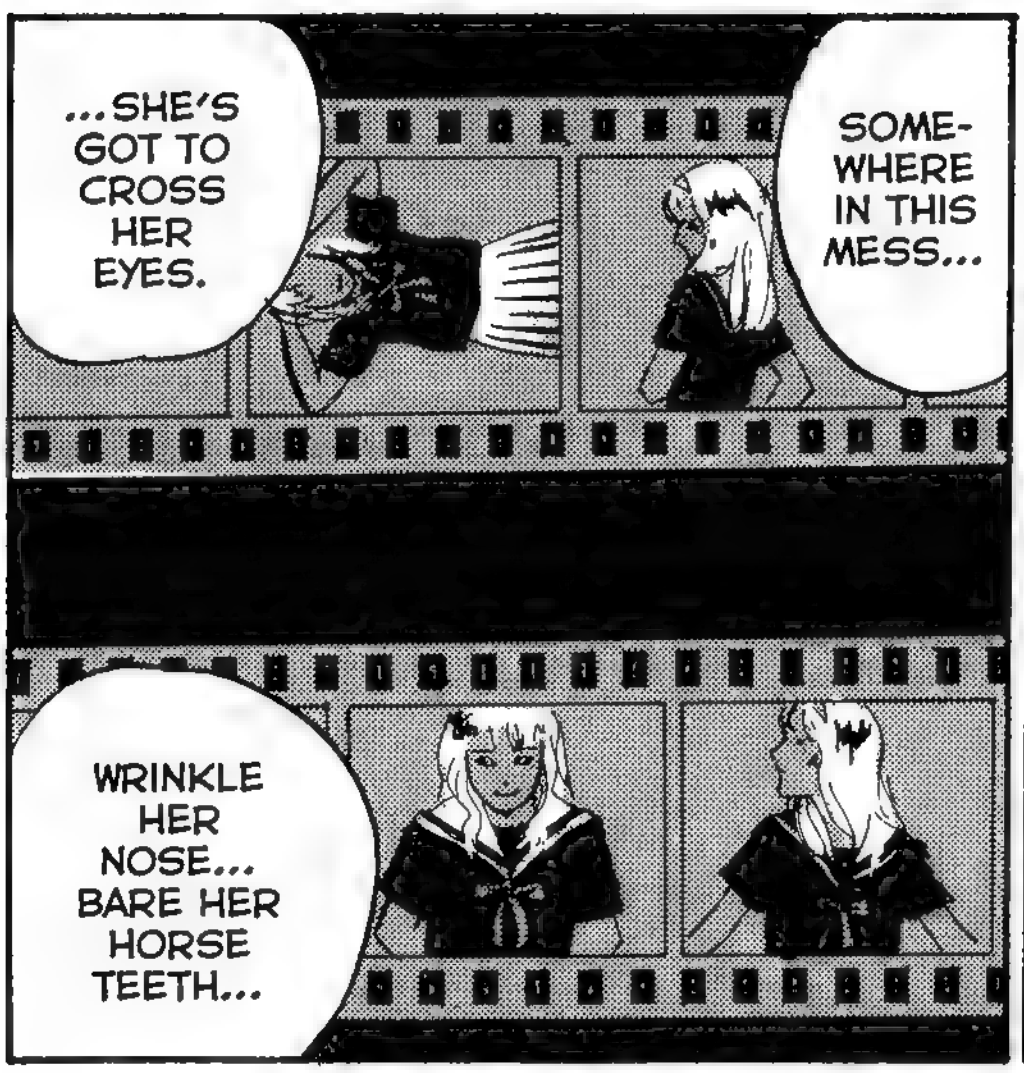
!

EARON



DON'T BE SHY.
GO ON.


WHY DON'T YOU TAKE A THOUSAND. THEN YOU CAN SCATTER THEM ALL ACROSS THE SCHOOL.
IF IT'S ME YOU WANT, BY ALL MEANS FIRE AWAY.


...SHE'S GOT TO CROSS HER EYES.
SOME-WHERE IN THIS MESS...
WRINKLE HER NOSE... BARE HER HORSE TEETH...

FINE.
I'LL DO JUST THAT.

YOU'RE THE PHOTOGRAPHER. YOU STEP BACK YOURSELF.

HOW ABOUT A FULL BODY SHOT. MOVE BACK, WILL YOU?

YOU'RE VERY PRETTY.

THAT'S ... GREAT.

IT'S LIKE SHOOTING A MODEL.

...HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK THESE WILL GO FOR?

SO, TSUKIKO...

WELL...

YEAH, RIGHT...

THUMP

...WHO'D PAY 100,000 YEN OR MO—

... THERE'S PROBABLY SOME DOLT...

...FOR YOUR PICTURE ...

TSUKIKO, I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU. I NEVER IMAGINED A MEMBER OF MY PHOTO CLUB WOULD DEBASE HERSELF LIKE THIS.

ER, TANI— MR. TANI...

MR. TANI, YOU'RE GETTING IT ALL WRONG!

I GUESS THAT'S WHY WE KEEP OUR DARKROOM AVAILABLE?

SO THAT'S WHAT PHOTO CLUB IS FOR, HUH? MAKING A QUICK BUCK WITH A CAMERA AND A FEW ROLLS OF FILM?

HEY, HOLD IT!

WHAT DON'T I GET? I DON'T SEE IT.

TEE HEE. CAUGHT RED-HANDED.

I HEAR YOU, MR. TANI. YOU'RE RIGHT. I'M THE SCUM OF THE EARTH. I DON'T DESERVE A SEAT IN YOUR SPOTLESS CLUB. I GUESS I'LL JUST HAVE TO RESIGN.

IN FACT, WHY NOT GO AHEAD AND SUSPEND ME FROM SCHOOL? EXPEL ME, EVEN? WHATEVER YOU DECIDE IS FINE BY ME.

MR. TANI...

THANKS FOR YOUR TROUBLE.

THIS SUCKS.

...

PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

PARDON ME.

B-TUM

YOU NEED SOME TIME TO REFLECT ON YOUR ACTIONS. NOW GO HOME.

SO I ENDED UP SUSPENDED.

YES.

ONE THING THAT BUGS ME...

I WONDER IF TOMIE WAS ALONE IN THIS SCAM.

THAT BITCH...

OH, WILL SHE EVER REGRET THIS.

I MEAN, I KNOW YAMAZAKI COULDN'T HAVE BEEN IN ON IT.

YEAH, IT'S DONE.

OKAY... IZUMISAWA, RIGHT?

DEPOSIT RECEIPT

IZUMISAWA

PHOTO LAB HONGO

Beauty Salon

LAB

SURE.

ER...CAN I HAVE A ROLL OF FILM, TOO?

SAME DAY PRINTING

THANK YOU. COME AGAIN!

YIKES!

WHAT THE HELL...?

DOUBLE EXPOSURE ?

HOW ABOUT THE OTHER ONES...

NOW THAT'S ...

HOW'S THIS POSSIBLE ?

WHOA!!

FLALLALUPP

WHAT IS IT? MONEY?

WHAT'S GOING ON?

FWIP

IT'S A PICTURE.

CREEPS ME OUT.

THE HELL IS THIS?

LOOKS LIKE IZUMISAWA. WASN'T SHE SUSPENDED FOR SOME REASON?

WHO'S DUMPING THEM?

WIH WHIH

EGAD! WHAT A GETUP!

WHAT'S HAP-PENING HERE?

HEY, THIS FACE...I THINK IT'S TOMIE KAWAKAMI. THAT ETHICS COMMITTEE CHICK.

WIH WIH

PLIP

NO WAY! WHAT THE CRAP'S GOING ON?

AND THAT'S... ALL!

THAT SHOULD DO HER. YOU WANT SCATTERED? HEY, I CAN SCATTER.

NOW I'D BETTER BOLT, BEFORE THE TEACHERS GET WISE.

CHATTER CHATTER

ANYWAY. MISSION ACCOM-PLISHED.

HEH HEH HEH. I'D LOVE TO SEE HER FACE.

I HAVE... A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

HEY... GUYS.

HUFF HUFF

OOPS!

OF COURSE IT COST ME AN ARM AND A LEG...

YAMA-ZAKI...

THE ETHICS COMMITTEE GOONS ARE ON THEIR WAY NOW!

TROUBLE ALREADY?

LOOK, YOU'D BETTER HIDE SOMEWHERE FAST.

I OVERHEARD THEM TALKING JUST NOW.

TOMIE WAS SO LIVID...

...SHE WAS SHAKING.

YEAH, SO WHAT ...?

I KNOW IT'S LUDICROUS, BUT THEY DIDN'T SOUND LIKE THEY WERE JOKING.

I SWEAR THEY WERE PLOTTING TO MURDER YOU!

IF THEY CATCH YOU, THEY'RE GOING TO KILL YOU!!

TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP TMP

GEEZ, LOOK AT THEM. DON'T YOU THINK THEY'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD LATELY?

IT'S THE ETHICS COMMIT-TEE.

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT?

UH, NO...

HEY, YOU!

WHO'S THAT?

HAVE YOU SEEN TSUKIKO IZUMI-SAWA TODAY?

HAVE YOU SEEN TSUKIKO IZUMISAWA TODAY?

PHOTO CLUB

YEAH, I SAW HER WALKING BY BUILDING 2 A WHILE BACK.

WHAT? IZUMI-SAWA?

...

PHOTO CLUB

THEY'RE GONE.

IZUMISAWA? YOU'RE IN THE CLEAR.

SHE MEANS TO MURDER ME? OVER THAT?

BUT I DON'T GET IT. THIS IS TOO MUCH.

GOSH, YAMAZAKI... THANKS SO MUCH.

BUT THAT'S WHAT TOMIE TOLD THEM. SHE WAS SHAKING ALL OVER.

I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT MYSELF.

THIS IS MY DOING.

IT'S LIKE THEY'RE BEWITCHED. OR AWED INTO STUPOR.

IT'S TURNED HER HANGERS-ON INTO OUT-AND-OUT HENCHMEN.

THAT WOMAN HAS THIS... STRANGE, SUPERNATURAL POWER.

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT I...ALMOST FELL FOR IT, TOO.

THEY'LL DO ANYTHING FOR HER—EVEN MURDER, IF SHE ASKS FOR IT.

...AND THE NEXT, YOU'RE IN MORTAL DANGER.

I KNOW I GOT YOU INTO IT. IT'S TROUBLING. ONE DAY I ASK A FAVOR OF YOU...

OH. WELL...

BUT...WHY DID YOU DUMP THE PHOTOS LIKE THAT?

BA-BUMP

TUNG

I THINK I'M IN LOVE WITH—

YAMA-ZAKI...

I WAS JEALOUS OF HER.

IT'S JUST...

FORGIVE ME.

MY ORDERS CAME PERSONALLY.

ACK... NO...

DIE!

YURK!

DEVELOPER

CHIH

CLATTER

KWERING

TUMP

I'M NOT GOING TO LET ANYONE ELSE GET THE CREDIT.

YEEEK!

FWOOSH

MY EYES!

MY EYES!

DARKROOM

WHAM

AAHHH!

TSUKIKO!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN, TSUKIKO? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GROUNDED.

11

ALL RIGHT. I'M LEAVING. I'LL BE WITH DAD FOR A WEEK. DON'T FORGET TO LOCK UP AT NIGHT.

I'LL BE SURE HE GIVES YOU A GOOD EARFUL... NEXT TIME HE RETURNS FROM HIS POST.

WHY MUST YOU BE SO DIFFICULT? I'M GOING TO TALK TO YOUR FATHER ABOUT THIS. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?

... ...

TSUKIKO, YOUR FRIEND IS HERE.

TAICHI... AND KIMATA!

NO!

FUMP

NO!

MOM, WAIT!

I'M COMING WITH YOU!

OH, GET STUFFED! ...MOM!

YOUR MOTHER HAS ALREADY LEFT.

LONG TIME NO SEE.

TSUKIKO.

QUIT BLOCKING THE WAY!

HEY! MOVE IT!

UM.

AWK!

DAMMIT, MOVE!

WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?

I BROUGHT SOME REFRESH-MENTS. THAT'S ALL.

BLUE

WHY SO UPSET ?

B-TUM

WILLY WONKA & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

O.K-CHAK

COME ON. THAT'S JUST MY ENTOURAGE. THEY FOLLOW ME EVERYWHERE.

THEN WHAT ARE THEY HERE FOR?

TEE HEE HEE HEE!

YOU THINK THEY WANT TO KILL YOU?

IT WAS YAMAZAKI... RIGHT BEFORE HE TRIED IT. I KNOW HE'S YOUR STOOGE.

HEE... THAT'S SILLY.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?

...HE LOVES YOU SO MUCH IT'S DRIVING HIM MAD.

OR MAYBE ...

HE MUST HAVE IT ALL WRONG.

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, "STOOGE"? CHOICE OF WORDS ASIDE, I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YAMAZAKI IS.

ABOUT YOU GETTING SUSPEND-ED FROM SCHOOL.

I CAME TO APOL-OGIZE TODAY.

IT'S NOT POISONED. I HAVE SOME SNACKS, TOO.

HERE, DRINK SOME-THING.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE TEACHER WAS STANDING RIGHT BEHIND YOU...WHAT TERRIBLE LUCK.

POP

IT LOOKS LIKE THAT LITTLE PHOTO OP OF OURS BACKFIRED.

YOU LIKE?

CHIPS

WOW!

DID YOU TAKE ALL THESE PICTURES YOUR-SELF?

BAD LUCK, YOU SAY...?

AS MIS-FORTUNE GOES, IT WAS AWFULLY CONVE-NIENT.

NO... THAT ONE, A FRIEND OF MINE GAVE ME.

OH...

THIS ONE'S GAUDÍ.

YOU'VE BEEN TO SPAIN, THEN?

HMPH...

PRETTY IMPRES-SIVE.

I WAS BORN IN FRANCE, THOUGH.

BEFORE I MOVED HERE, I LIVED IN SPAIN FOR A WHILE.

WE HAVE A FAMILY PHOTO WITH PICASSO IN IT.

MY MOTHER USED TO BE A FAMOUS ACTRESS... BUT SHE PASSED AWAY.

MY GRANDFATHER WAS A PAINTER. PALS WITH PICASSO AND ALL.

AND OF COURSE, IT WAS GAUDÍ WHO DESIGNED IT.

MY FAMILY USED TO LIVE IN A BIG MANSION IN THE CENTER OF BARCELONA.

SOME-THING DOESN'T SMELL RIGHT.

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS.

SO YOU STILL DOUBT ME?

SMELL RIGHT?

HEY, I'VE GOT AN IDEA! WHY DON'T YOU COME BY MY PLACE? I'D LOVE TO SHOW YOU THE PICTURE.

MY FATHER WANTS TO MEET YOU, TOO.

...YOU'RE A PATHO-LOGICAL LIAR.

FOR ALL I KNOW...

EITHER WAY, YOU'RE SICK!

I CAN HEAR THE FORK IN YOUR TONGUE.

YEAH... CATEGORI-CALLY.

ALL THAT BUSINESS ABOUT GAUDÍ AND PICASSO. GIVE ME A BREAK!

THE CAMERA DOESN'T LIE. IT SHOWS HOW YOU REALLY ARE.

TSU-KIKO...

TUN

S-SEE THERE! YOUR TRUE NATURE EMERGES. YOU'RE JUST A LIAR. A MONSTER IN A SKIRT.

DID...

...DID YOU JUST...SAY I'M SICK?

DID YOU... CALL ME... A MONSTER?

...TSUKIKO... DID YOU... DID YOU JUST... CALL ME... A MONSTER?

HEAD... MY HEAD...

ARRHHH!

WHAT'S THIS NOW...? PLAYING SICK?

AHHH, STOP IT!

STOP! I WON'T FORGIVE YOU!

KYAAHHH!

WUH...

NOOO!

LET GO, DAMMIT!

IT HURTS! ARGH!

LET GO! JUST LET GO!

WHAT'S GOING ON?

TOMIE! WHAT'S WRONG?

URK!

DON'T LOOK!

SMAK

TOMIE!

SHAKA SHAKA SHAKA

JUST TIE HER TO A PILLAR OR SOME-THING!

W-WHAT ABOUT HER?

GUYS... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

AND THEN...

THIS GROWTH! CUT IT OFF! QUICK!

THEN BURN IT!

GUYS, HURRY! IT HURTS! ARRG...

NO, USE A HATCHET!

WHERE ARE THE KITCHEN KNIVES?

TSUKIKO! SIT DOWN AND SHUT UP!

GET YOUR PAWS OFF ME!

COME ON! HURRY!

HANG IN THERE, TOMIE.

AAHH! IT HURTS!

GLURB

JOK

TUMP-
UMP

CHOK CHOK

TOMIE!

PLEASE DON'T DIE!

HUFF
HUFF

HUFF
HUFF

SHE TOLD US TO CHOP OFF THAT GROWTH.

H-HEY...

HOO... IT'S FINALLY OFF.

UH.

HEY, YOU WERE HACKING RIGHT WITH ME!

THEY'RE MAD...

DAMMIT, TAICHI, WHY WEREN'T YOU PAYING ATTENTION?!

AAH! IT'S GONE! SHE'S HEADLESS!

NOT HER FREAKIN' HEAD!

AAH!

N-NOW WHAT? WE'RE MURDERERS ...

HEY, WELL... D-DON'T SWEAT IT. NOT LIKE ANYONE SAW US.

N-NO, I WASN'T REALLY PAYING ATTEN-TION.

WE KNOW YOU SAW THE WHOLE THING. DIDN'T YOU TSUKIKO?

HEY, TSUKIKO, DON'T TRY TO TELL US YOU'RE ASLEEP.

YOU'RE RIGHT...AND YOU KNOW, I BET SHE WAS TAKING PICTURES THE WHOLE TIME!

SHE WAS WATCHING US...I FELT HER EYES ON ME.

...WAS PLANNING TO KILL HER.

YOU KNOW, TOMIE ...

BACK AT HER HOUSE.

YEAH ...

WHAT?! THAT IS A PROBLEM.

SHE'S A MASTER AT CANDID CAMERA.

TOMIE IS... A DIVINE... GODDESS!!

TAICHI, LET'S KILL HER NOW. RIGHT HERE! RIGHT NOW!

YOU KNOW, YOU REALLY UPSET TOMIE.

YOU AND THOSE MONSTROUS PICTURES!

TAICHI!
KIMATA!

HUH?!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

HURRY UP AND BURN IT!

THE TUMOR! BURN IT FAST!

IF YOU DON'T, IT'LL WAKE UP AGAIN.

R-
RIGHT.

QUICKLY...
DO IT
NOW!

BUT...
IT'S THE
GROWTH
THAT'S
TALKING...

THE
GROWTH
IS...A
LOT LIKE
TOMIE,
THOUGH...

I-I'M
SAVED...

*WITH THAT
THEY LEFT,
SHIRTS
STAINED
CRIMSON
AND
GROCERY
BAG IN TOW.*

IS...
THERE
SOMETHING
TO PUT HER
IN?

THIS
LOOKS
GOOD.

SNIFF

...MMM...

OH NO... SHE WON'T BE COMING HOME FOR A WEEK.

URRG... I CAN'T WAIT FOR MOM TO GET BACK.

URK... IT'S... TOO TIGHT.

GOD, MY ROOM... WHAT HAVE THEY DONE IN HERE...

OH... HM.

MAYBE IT'S JUST A NIGHTMARE.

AM I JUST SUPPOSED TO SIT HERE UNTIL THEN? THIS HAS TO BE A JOKE...

... ...

...TO WHAT JUST HAPPENED... RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME.

FROM THOSE BIZARRE PHOTOS...

THIS IS TOO SURREAL TO BE TRUE.

ZURSSH

I WOKE TO A STRANGE NOISE...

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG I WAS OUT...

ZIRSSH

SPLOT

SPLOT

SST

HEAD OR NOT, TOMIE'S BODY HAD RISEN!

SLOK

SLINGSH

I SWEAR, THIS IS THE WORST NIGHTMARE EVER.

AHA
AHA...
AH HA
HA HA!

HAHHH
...

AHHH
...

AH...
AHA...AH
HA HA...
HA HA...HA
HA...AHA...
AHA...
AHA...

AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

AH HA HA HA!

AHA!

K- CHAK K- CHAK

CREAK

AH. FREE AT LAST.

FLUP

AHA...HA...AHA!

NNGH!

SKRISH

AHHH...

OH NO, MY PHOTOS ARE COMPLETELY TRASHED.

I DON'T WANT TO WAKE UP TO THIS EVER AGAIN.

HOWEVER HARD I TRIED, THOUGH, TOMIE'S BLOOD WOULD NOT COME CLEAN.

...I'D BETTER CLEAN THIS UP.

I KNOW IT'S A DREAM, BUT JUST TO BE SAFE...

PHOTO / END

接吻

KISS

HA HA!

AHA HA HA!

KEEP AWAY!

NO!

AHA AHA HA HA!

TSUKIKO... AH HA HA HA!

AHA.

TSUKIKO!

URK!

HA HA!

DIE!

TSUKIKO!

GYAAHHH!

AND WHAT A HORRIBLE DREAM...

HOO... IT'S... IT WAS A DREAM.

URK

AND IN THIS VERY ROOM...

TAICHI AND KIMATA CAME AND CHOPPED HER HEAD OFF. SHE WAS...

I DREAMED THAT TOMIE WAS HERE. SHE TURNED INTO A MONSTER.

AAH!

I SHOULD CALL THEM NOW.

I'D BETTER GET MOM AND DAD HOME.

SO I DIDN'T DREAM IT...

IT FIGURES ...

IT'S...THE BLOODSTAIN... IT'S STILL HERE!

IT'S JUST LIKE LAST NIGHT.

LET'S HOPE HER FAMILY ISN'T BACK YET.

BESIDES, IT'S STILL DARNED EARLY.

I HOPE SHE DIDN'T SQUIRM LOOSE OVERNIGHT.

DON'T WORRY. I TIED HER LIKE A SAILOR.

TAICHI... ARE WE STILL GONNA KILL TSUKIKO?

WELL, YEAH. WE HAVE TO DO WHAT TOMIE SAYS, NO MATTER WHAT.

NO KIDDING...WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? BURN IT OR TAKE IT HOME? IF SHE COULD JUST MAKE UP HER MIND, THEN—

BUT TOMIE'S HEAD— THAT WAS SOMETHING ELSE.

WHAT?

THAT GUY'S BEEN TAILING US FOR A WHILE NOW.

HEY, TAICHI...

WHAT'S YOUR BUSI-NESS?

...TO SEE TOMIE.

I'VE COME...

I NEED TO SEE HER. I'LL GO INSANE IF I DON'T.

PLEASE, LET ME SEE HER.

WHAT THE...? WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?

THERE'S A PHONE BOOTH, BUT IT'S KINDA FAR...

THAT MUST'VE BEEN A GOODBYE PRESENT.

THE PHONE LINE'S BEEN CUT.

CRIME PREVENTION

I WONDER IF IT'S STILL A MURDER IF SHE WALKED AWAY FROM IT?

SO, FIRST DAD, THEN STRAIGHT TO THE POLICE.

LIKE WE'D LET A SCHMUCK LIKE YOU ANYWHERE NEAR TOMIE!

YOU BAS-TARD!

OH.

DEAD

DEAD

KRAK

SHUT UP.

PLEASE... JUST ONCE... JUST LET ME SEE HER ONCE.

WHAT'S THAT ABOUT TSUKIKO?

I DON'T REMEMBER TELLING YOU TO KILL ANYONE!

YAMA-ZAKI?!

YAMAZAKI, RIGHT?

DON'T EVER SHOW YOUR FACE AGAIN!

HUFF HUFF

KIMATA, HURRY.

WE DON'T WANT TSUKIKO TO GET AWAY.

URRNNG.

YAMA-ZAKI?

YAMA-ZAKI?

OW.

THEY'RE JUST A COUPLE OF THUGS.

YOU'RE ...

IT'S FUNNY... I THINK THEY SMACKED ME BACK TO MY SENSES.

I TRIED TO KILL YOU.

WHY ARE YOU HELPING ME?

WHAT?

DAMMIT! TSUKIKO'S LOOSE!

I TRIED TO KILL YOU, YOU KNOW.

TSUKIKO... TAKE ME TO THE POLICE, WILL YOU?

WHICH WAY DID SHE GO, THOUGH?

AWW—!

AH!

IT'S THEM!

HUH ?!

YEAH...WELL. HE IS AN ACCOMPLICE, YOU KNOW. IT SHOULD BE OKAY.

NOT SURE WE SHOULD JUST LET HIM WANDER AROUND.

HEY, HE'S GONE TOO.

YOU GO NORTH. I'LL SEARCH SOUTH.

QUICK!

BUT SHOULDN'T WE SHUT HIM UP?

ALL RIGHT, WE'LL GET RID OF THEM BOTH.

TSUKIKO... REALLY. TAKE ME TO THE POLICE... NOW'S OUR CHANCE.

EVEN WITH TWO KILLERS ON MY TAIL, WHEN I THOUGHT OF THE POLICE STATION I HESITATED.

THE THOUGHT THAT YAMAZAKI COULD BE ARRESTED... THAT KEPT ME AWAY.

OH NO... YOU'VE GOT A FEVER.

THERE'S AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL KIT AT HOME.

YAMAZAKI, YOU NEED MEDICAL TREATMENT. YOU'RE TERRIBLY HURT.

OH NO... THIS IS AWFUL.

THOSE JERKS!

DARN IT. I FORGOT TO LOCK THE DOOR.

I DIDN'T EVEN CONTACT MY PARENTS, LET ALONE THE POLICE.

RATTLE

WELL, THE KITCHEN'S INTACT.

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO.

I'LL GET A WATER BOTTLE IN A JIFF.

EASY NOW...

...

TSSHH

GOOD GRIEF.

OF COURSE... THEY THOUGHT I TOOK PICTURES OF THE MURDER.

THAT WOULD'VE BEEN CLEVER OF ME, WHEN I WAS TIED TO A TABLE LEG.

MY CAM-ERA'S GONE.

THOSE... RRRGH!

OH!

THEY'LL PROBABLY BE BACK EVENTUALLY.

CAN'T BE THEM.

DOZO

DING

BA-BUMP

MICHIKO.

YOU KNOW IT'S SUNDAY, RIGHT?

WHAT *IS* IT? SHEESH. I JUST SWUNG BY TO CHECK UP ON YOU.

IS THAT AN ICE PILLOW? YOU GOT A FEVER?

JUST COME IN.

HEY, TSUKIKO.

MICHIKO, WHAT IS IT?

WHAT? SEE ANYONE? WHY, SHOULD I HAVE?

DID YOU SEE ANYONE OUT THERE?

YAMAZAKI, LIFT YOUR HEAD JUST A LITTLE, OKAY?

YAMAZAKI?

OH...

...

NO... THAT'S NOT IT.

WHAT'S NOT WHAT?

LOOK, HE JUST HAPPENED BY. THAT'S ALL.

WHY? I... DUNNO.

TSUKIKO.

DON'T BE COY.

IF YOU GUYS ARE ALREADY A THING, JUST TELL ME... SINCE WHEN?

HEY, TSUKIKO, WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?

TELL ME.

WHY IS HE HERE?

NO PROBLEM. BUT I GUESS I'M NOT WANTED HERE.

MICHIKO... THANKS FOR COMING OVER TODAY.

NUH-UH. IT'S JUST A LITTLE FEVER. THAT'S ALL.

OH. WELL, FINE. BUT HE LOOKS SICK. DID YOU CALL A DOCTOR?

BUT THAT MIGHT ROPE HER IN... THAT'S NOT FAIR TO HER.

GOD, WHAT DO I DO..? SHOULD I BRING HER UP TO SPEED ON ALL THIS MESS?

OH, I SEE. YOU'RE EMBAR-RASSED! HOW CUTE!

THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU.

AW, WHAT'S WRONG, TSUKIKO? YOU LOOK SO GLOOMY.

?

KISSED?

HAVE YOU KISSED?

HEY, HOPE YOU DON'T MIND ME ASKING, BUT... WELL...

THAT'S NOT COOL. WHY ARE YOU SAYING THESE THINGS?

HEY, MICHIKO.

THEN NOW'S YOUR CHANCE.

MICHIKO... WHAT'S—

I'M SORRY ...

...
...

DON'T JOKE LIKE THAT. ALL RIGHT? ESPECIALLY NOT WHEN HE'S SICK WITH A FEVER.

YAMAZAKI AND I AREN'T INVOLVED IN THAT WAY.

SO, SEEING HIM HERE GOT ME EXCITED.

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE DEPRESSED, SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL AND ALL.

I REALLY DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD BE HERE. YOU'D BETTER LEAVE NOW.

MICHIKO... I CAN'T EXPLAIN RIGHT NOW. I'M SORRY.

B-TUH

TSUKIKO!

MICHIKO, PLEASE. GET FAR AWAY FROM THIS CONDO. FAST!

TSUKIKO!

YOU SHOULDN'T BE HERE.

ALONE WITH A GUY I HAVE THE HOTS FOR...

UNDER NORMAL CIRCUM-STANCES, IT WOULD SEEM EXCITING.

I KNOW WHY SHE WAS SO THRILLED...

SORRY, MICHIKO.

HOW'RE YOU FEELING?

YOU'RE ...AWAKE.

TSUKIKO.

UM... HOW'S YOUR EYE?

NOT BAD... I WASHED IT WITH WATER RIGHT AWAY.

DARNED HOT.

SHE CALLED MY NAME.

SHE'S HERE, ISN'T SHE...? I HEARD HER VOICE.

HUH ?

BUT... WHAT ABOUT TOMIE?

...

IT MUST'VE BEEN A DREAM.

BUT, UM, WE'RE THE ONLY ONES HERE.

I TRIED TO KILL YOU.

WHY...?

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO NICE TO ME?

YOU'VE BEEN HERE THE WHOLE TIME?

YEAH...I'M WATCHING. JUST REST, OKAY?

IT'S GETTING LATE.

TIK TIK

WILL YOU STAY BY MY SIDE FOR A WHILE?

TSUKIKO...

YEAH?

WSSH

HOW ABOUT SOME POR-RIDGE?

YAMA-ZAKI, YOU'D BETTER EAT SOME-THING.

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S BACK.

IT JUST WON'T GO DOWN ...

Squeee

HUFF HUFF

!

AAHHH!

UH... MMMNG...

OH!

GLUMP

TSUKIKO !!

YAMA-ZAKI...

IT'S TOMIE...

SHE'S CALLING ME...

YOU'RE DREAMING. IT'S THE FEVER DOING IT.

SHE'S NOT HERE. I TOLD YOU, WE'RE ALL ALONE.

COME ON, LIE DOWN.

HELP ME. SHE'S CALLING MY NAME. IT'S NOT A DREAM... YOU MUST'VE HEARD IT, TOO.

I WAS RIGHT, SHE'S HERE... TOMIE... SHE'S HERE... SOMEWHERE IN THIS HOUSE.

YAMAZAKI.

HUH!

YAMAZAKI. YAMAZAKI.

TSUKIKO!

TUG

RRFFF

KANAKA!

WHERE ARE YOU?

IT'S TOMIE. SHE'S CALLING ME.

KANAKA!

AK!

TOMIE!

KANAKA!

YAMA-ZAKI!

YAMAZAKI, DON'T!

PLEASE! KEEP AWAY FROM THAT ROOM!

JASAN-!

JASAN-!

TOMIE!

SHOW YOUR-SELF!

YAMAZAKI.

IT'S ME!

SHE'S... THERE!

AHH. YAMA-ZAKI.

THE CARPET... WHY IS IT... DOING THAT?

TOMIE!

TOMIE!

GURN

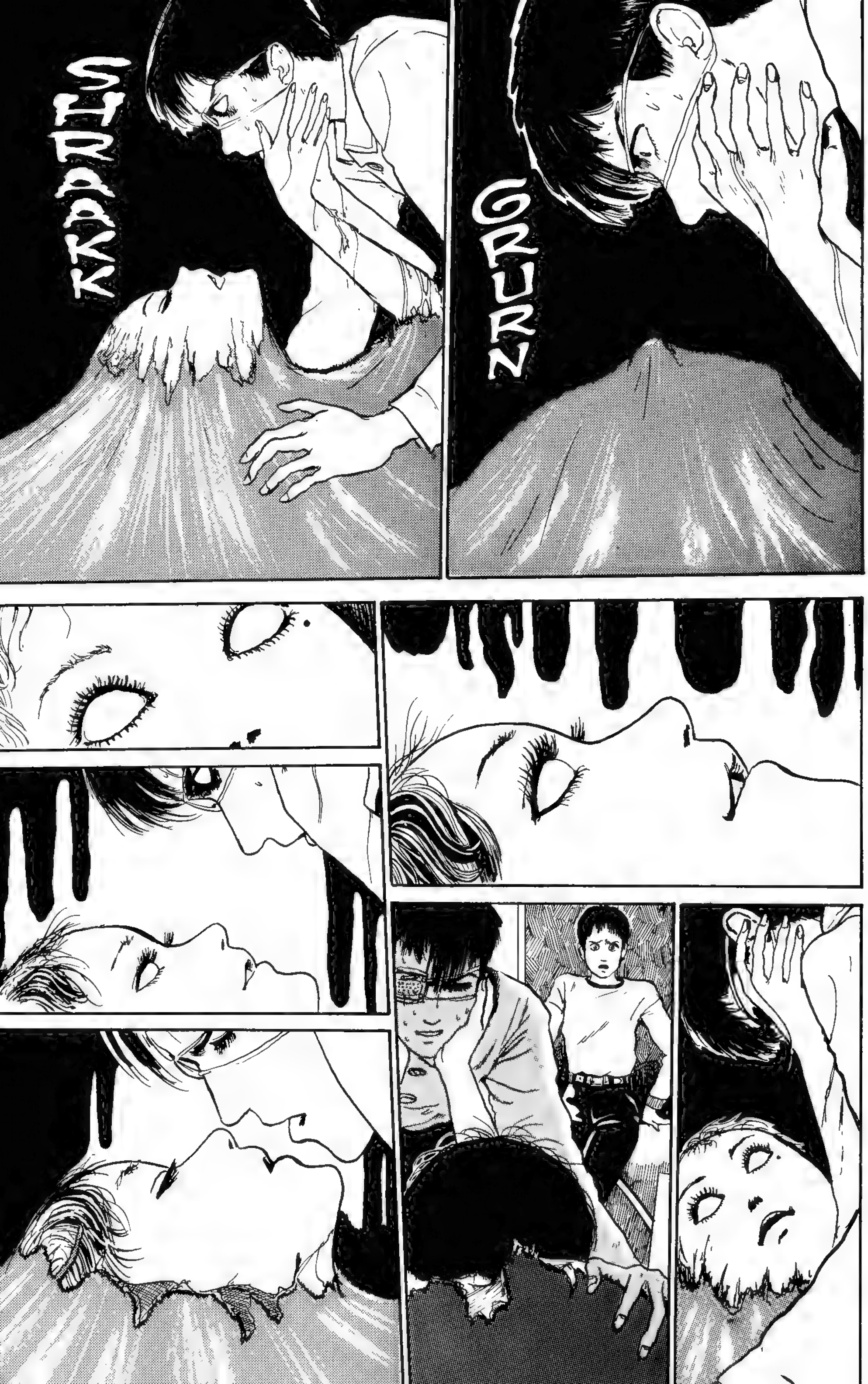
SHIVER

TOMIE!

IT WAS RIGHT WHERE TOMIE HAD BEEN KILLED. THE CARPET HAD SOAKED UP FAR TOO MUCH BLOOD...

SHRAK

SHRIPP


KRRRTS
GRURN

TOMIE!

HEE.
HEE
HEE
HEE

TEE
HEE
...

TEE HEE HEE... YAMAZAKI IS ALL MINE.

TOMIE... WHAT... *ARE* YOU?

TEE HEE HEE.

HIS LIPS BELONG TO ME...

YAMAZAKI ...KISS ME AGAIN...

LEAVE US! THIS ROOM IS OURS. IT WILL BE OUR LOVE NEST...

WE'RE IN LOVE. YOU ARE A BYSTANDER.

HEY! DON'T!

STOP IT! YAMAZAKI, SNAP OUT OF IT!

TEE HEE HEE. I PITY YOU, TSUKIKO.

SPAK

KIMATA !!

K
SHASHHH

KYAH!

NO!

KIMATA
!

HEY...LOOK WHO ELSE WE'VE GOT HERE. WHAT'S UP, YAMAZAKI?

YOU KNOW, I COULD JUST SHOVE A LITTLE AND IT WOULD LOOK LIKE SUICIDE.

YOU SURE LIVE A LONG WAY UP.

HA HA HA!

LET'S DO YOU FIRST, YAMAZAKI.

GRIP

YAMA-ZAKI!

HECK. THIS SURE SAVES ME SOME TROUBLE.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING DOWN THERE, HUH?

YAMAZAKI !!

COME ON, YAMAZAKI. RUN!

NOT GETTING AWAY...

HM?

YANK

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE ...?

KIMATA ...

T-TOMIE...

I-I'LL TREAT IT RIGHT AWAY...

...WHEN YOU WOUND SOME-ONE?

TELL ME... WHAT DO YOU DO...

BARGING INTO MY ROOM... BREAKING MY WINDOW...LOOK AT ME. I'VE GOT GLASS IN MY FACE.

DON'T COME NEAR ME!

URK.

KEEP AWAY! YOUR GRIME WILL COME OFF ON ME.

T- TOMIE...

YOU'RE REPULSIVE. STOP RUBBING IT ON MY FACE.

DIRTY, VULGAR, RUDE—YOU'RE THE WORST.

YOU'RE FILTHY.

...TAKE YOURSELF ON A LONG, LONG TRIP.

NOW GET OUT. TAKE THAT IRON PIPE AND...

Y-YES...I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL!

I HAVE NO MORE USE FOR YOU.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO. NOT ANY-MORE.

?

YAMA-
ZAKI.

HUH!

YAMAZAKI.

KRUMP

YAMAZAKI.

KIMATA
...

TOMIE!

AAH!

PLEASE,
GET ME
OUT OF
HERE.

AHH,
YAMAZAKI!
HOLD ME!
PLEASE!

I'M
HERE.

TOMIE,
IT'S ME.

RRIP

IT'S TSUKIKO. SHE LOCKED ME IN HERE...

GRIP-GRIP

RRIP

RIGHT, HANG ON.

SHURR

I'LL HELP YOU OUT NOW.

I'M SO HAPPY, YAMAZAKI. NOW WE CAN LIVE TOGETHER.

W-WHAT'S WRONG? I CAN'T...GET HER OUT... WHAT'S THIS FILMY STUFF?

WE'LL EVEN RAISE OUR CHIL-DREN HERE.

TEE HEE HEE!

THIS ROOM WILL BE OUR WORLD.

IT KEEPS APPEARING AGAIN AND AGAIN...LIKE A LIZARD'S TAIL THAT KEEPS GROWING BACK HOWEVER OFTEN YOU CUT IT OFF. ALWAYS WITH THE SAME FACE.

TOMIE...WHAT A GHASTLY WOMAN... WELL, NOT WOMAN. I MEAN... WHATEVER SHE IS.

OR IS SHE A WITCH?

WHATEVER SHE IS, SHE'S GOT YAMAZAKI UTTERLY SPELLBOUND.

COULD SHE BE A GHOST?

THOSE BIZARRE PICTURES... WOULD THAT MAKE THEM PSYCHIC PHOTOS?

DON'T DO THAT...

NO—NO, DON'T...

YOU POOR GIRL... SO MANY SHARDS, ALL OVER YOUR FACE.

YAMA-ZAKI!

SKSSH

I'LL REMOVE THEM FOR YOU.

PLEASE! WAKE UP!

I'D...I'D BETTER GET YOU OUT OF THERE NOW.

BLUP

OH NO!

THE BLOOD!

PSSHHH!!

MURMUR

MURMUR

WHAT... WHAT'S THIS?

EE-OO

EE-OO

SLOP

WHAT *IS* THIS...?

FLUP

HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?

THIS IS TERRIBLE.

EVERYBODY, PLEASE MOVE BACK!

OFFICER, IT APPEARS THE BOY FELL FROM THAT WINDOW.

DID YOU SEE IT HAPPEN?

NO, NOT A THING.

DO WE HAVE ANY WITNESSES?

AAHHHH!

HM?

SHE'S DEAD!!

TOMIE'S DEAD!

FLUP

SLOP

YAMAZAKI, NO! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!

I'VE KILLED HER!

THE THIRD FLOOR. WHERE'S THE ENTRANCE?

HEY, THERE'S THE GUY!

DING DONG

THAT'S IT!

THIS IS THE ONLY PASSAGE.

OPEN UP, IT'S THE POLICE!

BAM BAM BAM

OPEN THE DOOR!

DING DONG

SNIZUR

CHATTER

EE-OO EE-OO

AH, THERE'S A WOMAN, TOO!

IT MUST BE A LOVE TRIANGLE GONE HAYWIRE.

TAICHI? KIMATA JUST FELL OUT...

THERE'S A DEAD BOY DOWN BELOW.

WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON IN HERE?

THE CARPET. THE WALLS.

NOW WE COME UP HERE, AND... WHAT IS THIS? IS THIS BLOOD?

CAN YOU EXPLAIN ANY OF THIS?

URRGH, IT'S SOAKING WET!

COME ON... THIS IS NO TIME FOR PRACTICAL JOKES.

I KNOW, BUT IT HAP-PENED.

HEY! YOU!

I TOLD THEM EVERYTHING. I DESCRIBED HOW TOMIE WAS KILLED IN FRONT OF ME, AND HOW SHE CAME BACK TO LIFE.

HOW THE KILLERS THEN CAME AFTER ME, HOW TOMIE REAPPEARED UNDER THE CARPET, AND HOW KIMATA LEAPT OF HIS OWN ACCORD...

WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO SAY? IT'S JUST A PLASTIC BAG.

COME ON.

THAT'S... THAT'S IMPOS-SIBLE!

HEY!

I KNOW THERE'S NO REASON FOR YOU TO BELIEVE ME.

BUT WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT, THEN?

ｽﾝｽﾝｽﾝ

MURMUR

WHEN I LOOKED MORE CLOSELY, HE WAS RIGHT. IT WAS JUST A NORMAL SHEET OF PLASTIC.

THE KIND YOU TACK DOWN UNDER THE CARPET.

EE-OO
EE-OO

SNFF
SNFF

HUUH

SNFF
SNFF

SNFF
SNRFF

MY DEAR GIRL... PLEASE STOP WEEPING.

BUT FATHER...

SNFF
SNFF

FATHER... I JUST CAN'T STAND IT.

CAN'T STAND WHAT? TELL ME.

AND NOW YOU'RE CRYING YOUR EYES OUT... I CAN'T BEAR TO WATCH YOU LOOK SO MISERABLE.

FIRST YOU COME HOME WITH YOUR UNIFORM ALL DIRTY...

SHE CALLED ME A MONSTER!

SHE SAID I'M SICK... BUT THAT'S NOT ALL.

WHAT A TERRIBLE THING TO SAY.

SURE, THAT'S FINE.

I CAN'T FORGIVE AND FORGET. I'M SO ANGRY.

JUST FORGET ALL THAT.

FATHER... I'M QUITTING SCHOOL... I DON'T WANT TO GO ANYMORE.

SHE CIRCULATED MY PICTURE— THE UGLIEST PHOTOS EVER!

HER NAME IS TSUKIKO IZUMI-SAWA.

I AM TELLING THE TRUTH. HE BROKE IN THROUGH THE WINDOW. HE MUST'VE CLIMBED UP THE DRAINPIPE OR SOMETHING.

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

HELP STOP CRIME

TRAFFIC SAFETY WEEK

HE COM-MITTED SUICIDE, SO THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

WELL...AS FOR KIMATA, WE HAVE A WITNESS.

AND THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE SECOND BOY— NAMED... TAICHI—ARE CURRENTLY UNKNOWN. HMM.

AND YOU'RE SAYING HE DID THIS BECAUSE YOU WITNESSED THEM COMMITTING A CRIME.

YES.

SO IT DOESN'T APPEAR SHE HAS ANY CONNECTION WITH THE CASE.

IT WOULD SEEM NOT. OUR INVESTIGATION TELLS US SHE CAME TO SCHOOL THE DAY AFTER THE INCIDENT, TO SUBMIT A NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL.

RIGHT. IT'S TOMIE'S.

NOW, WE'VE TESTED THE BLOOD FROM YOUR ROOM. TURNS OUT IT IS HUMAN.

DUE TO THE SHEER QUANTITY, THE VICTIM CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE SURVIVED.

NOW, SINCE IT'S HUMAN BLOOD, WE CAN'T JUST IGNORE IT.

THAT'S DISCOUNTING YOUR SUGGESTION OF A MONSTER, OF COURSE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE NO VICTIM YET.

IT DOESN'T EVEN MATCH THE SECOND BOY'S BLOOD TYPE.

IF THAT'S SO, THEN IT MUST BE SOMEONE ELSE'S BLOOD.

...IT'S JUST SHROUDED IN TOO MUCH MYSTERY.

WHATEVER YOU GUYS DID, IF THERE'S A CRIME...

...WITHOUT A BODY, THERE'S NOTHING MORE WE CAN DO.

BUT, WELL ...

FOR NOW ALL WE'VE GOT IS A CASE WITHOUT A VICTIM.

I DON'T THINK PRESSING YOU WILL CHANGE ANYTHING AT THIS POINT.

WE'LL TALK TO YAMAZAKI AT THE HOSPITAL WHEN HE RECOVERS.

Let's go Let's go

HANADAGAOKA HIGH SCHOOL

YEAH...I SWUNG BY TO SAY GOOD-BYE.

IS IT TRUE YOU'RE LEAVING SCHOOL?

TSUKIKO.

I'M SO SORRY, MICHIKO.

BUT WHAT'S THE RUSH?

ANYWAY, IT FEELS UN-COMFORTABLE LIVING IN THAT CONDO ANY-MORE. WE'RE JUST GONNA MOVE TO WHERE MY DAD IS STA-TIONED.

I GUESS IT WAS DIVINE JUDG-MENT.

I CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE.

HOW COME?

HERE, TAKE THIS.

WHAT IS IT?

YEAH. I THINK I'LL GO VISIT YAMAZAKI AT THE HOSPITAL.

WHAT? YOU'RE GOING NOW?

TSUKIKO ...

SNFF

A PARTING GIFT. KUSAKAWA'S PHOTO. IT'S ALL YOURS.

A LOT OF HIS PICTURES CAME OUT UNSCATHED. SOME OF THEM ARE VERY GOOD.

YOU KNOW, TSUKIKO, I BELIEVE YOU—I MEAN, YOUR STORY!

THANK YOU, MICHIKO.

YOU'LL ALWAYS BE MY BEST FRIEND.

YEAH, I KNOW...I'M KIND OF WORRIED ABOUT HIM. THE INVESTIGATION STILL ISN'T OVER.

IT WAS ROUGH ON HIM, TOO.

FORGET ABOUT IT. WHEN MY SISTER-IN-LAW MOVES, I HELP HER. ONE OF THOSE NATURAL LAWS.

YOU'RE A LIFESAVER, SHIN.

Slowly now...

BY THE WAY, CAN YOU DO SOMETHING WITH THAT CARPET? NO WAY WE'RE TAKING THAT WITH US.

SEEMS WE NEED A MAN IN THE HOUSE AFTER ALL.

REALLY, I'M NOT ENOUGH TO KEEP HER IN LINE.

HOW'S TSUKIKO?

SHE'S OFF TAKING ONE LAST LOOK AT HER SCHOOL.

OKAY! HEY, CAN YOU GET THAT CARPET, TOO?

YAMAZAKI, I'M GLAD YOU DON'T NEED THAT EYE PATCH ANYMORE.

HUH...? OH...YEAH, THANKS.

YAMAGUCHI GENERAL HOSPITAL

I'VE BEEN WONDERING... THAT THING, UNDER THE CARPET— WHAT WAS IT, ANYWAY?

YEAH. I WAS THINKING...

I CAUSED YOU SO MUCH TROUBLE.

NAH.

I... I THINK I'M RID OF HER, AT LAST.

IT WAS FILLED WITH SUCH LONGING FOR YOU, IT USED THE PLASTIC SHEETING UNDER THE CARPET.

FILLED IT OUT, USED IT AS ITS OWN SKIN.

...IT WAS TOMIE'S BLOOD, WHICH HADN'T DIED.

BLOOD?

...I GUESS THAT'S...

...MY ONLY CONSOLATION.

SO THOSE LIPS YOU KISSED WERE ONLY TRANSITORY. IT SEEMS. I GUESS...

MARRINER
Marriage of Figaro
W·A·Mozart
ADEMY OF ST.
MARTIN IN THE FIELDS

STRAUSS II
CONCERT
LONDON

CONSO-LATION, HUH...

ONE UNUSUAL OBJECT FOUND AT THE CRIME SCENE WAS A PLASTIC SHEET WITH THE CLEAR IMPRINT OF A HUMAN FACE.

...A TRULY BIZARRE INVESTI-GATION.

REPORTER

SHE HAS YET, HOWEVER, TO BE FOUND.

SOME PEOPLE INTERVIEWED CLAIMED THAT THE PLASTIC IS LIKELY TO BE AN EXACT MOLD OF THE VICTIM'S FACE!

ONE THEORY IS THAT THE PERPETRATOR PULLED THE PLASTIC OVER THE VICTIM'S HEAD, SUFFOCATING HER BEFORE DISMEMBERING HER.

Plastic Wrap

REPORTER

WHEN I WOKE, I NOTICED SOME ADDITIONS TO MY SCENIC PILE OF JUNK.

YAMAZAKI, YOU'D BETTER GET YOUR REST.

MM.

IN OTHER WORDS, I'M STILL THE SUSPECT.

I WONDER WHO DUMPED IT...

IT... GIVES ME A WEIRD FEELING.

THAT CARPET!

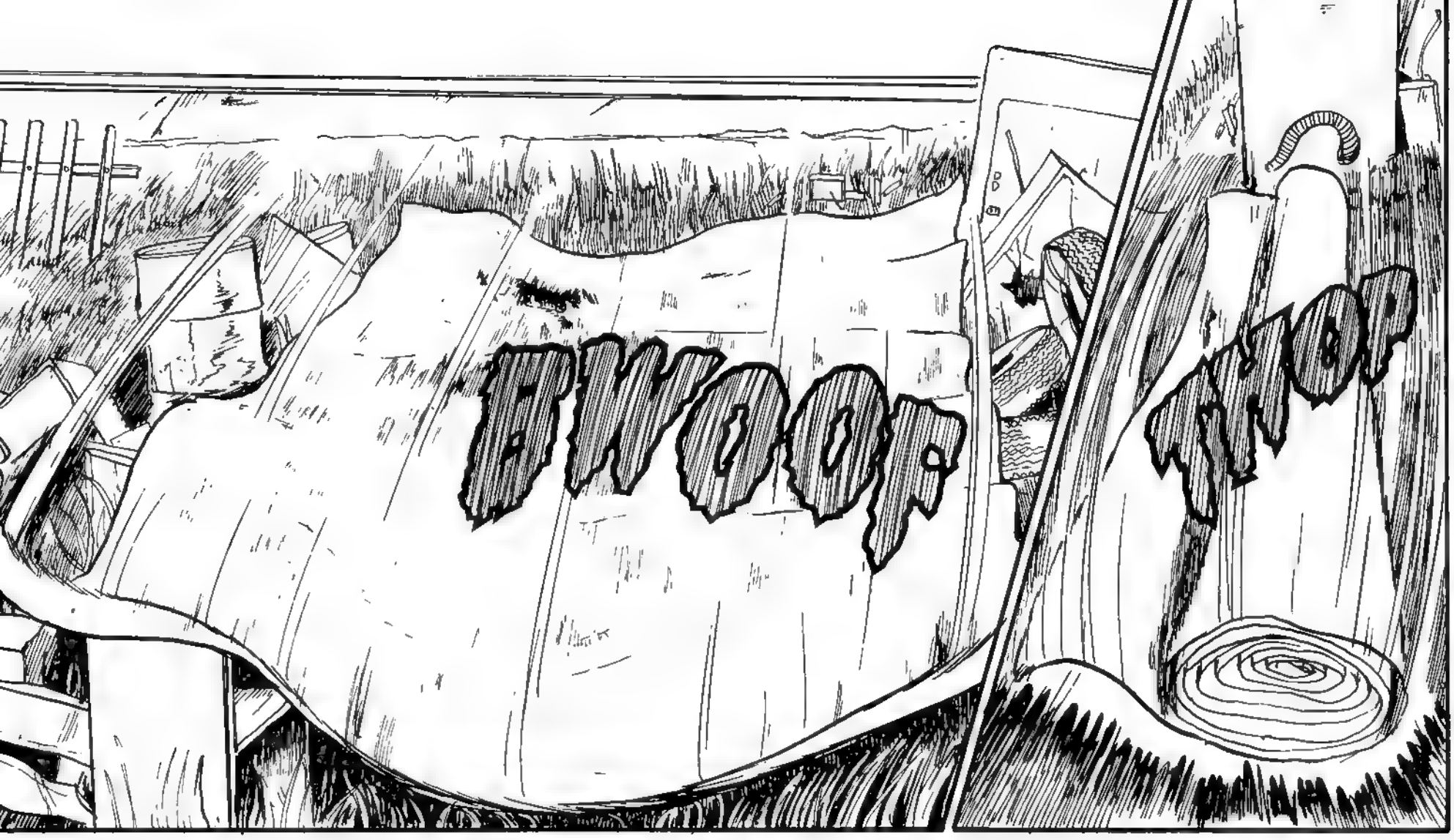
VRRRRM

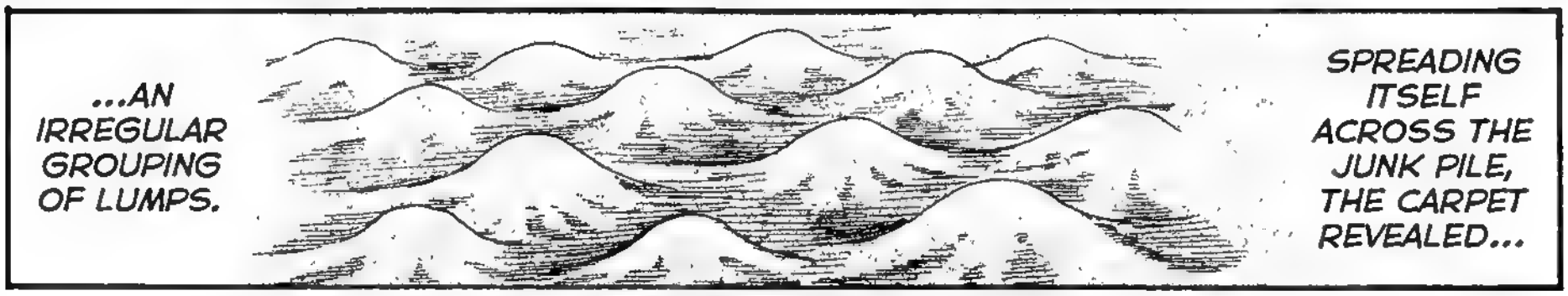
VOOM

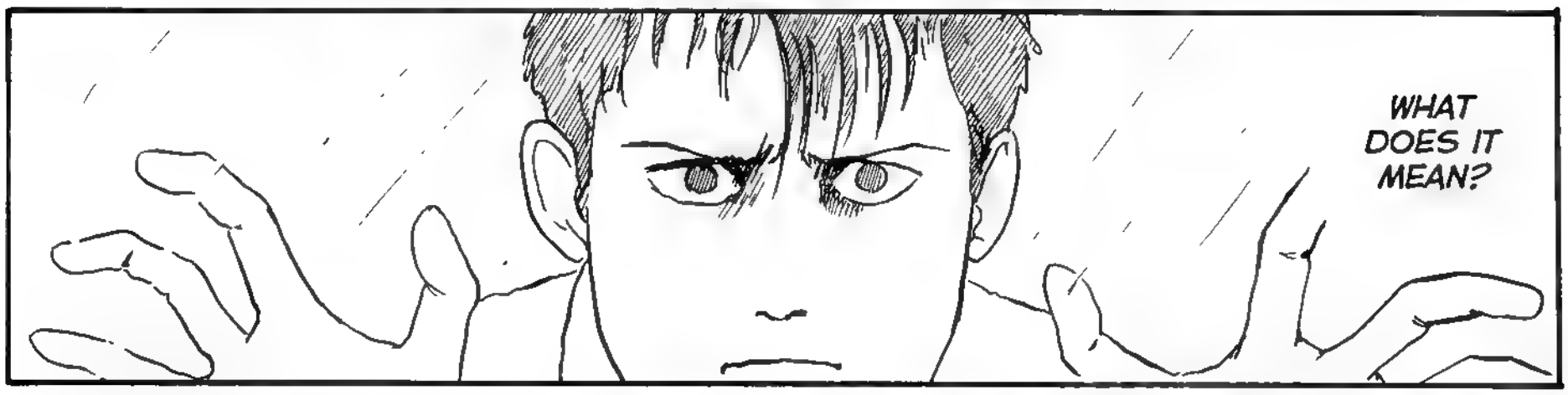
SNAPP

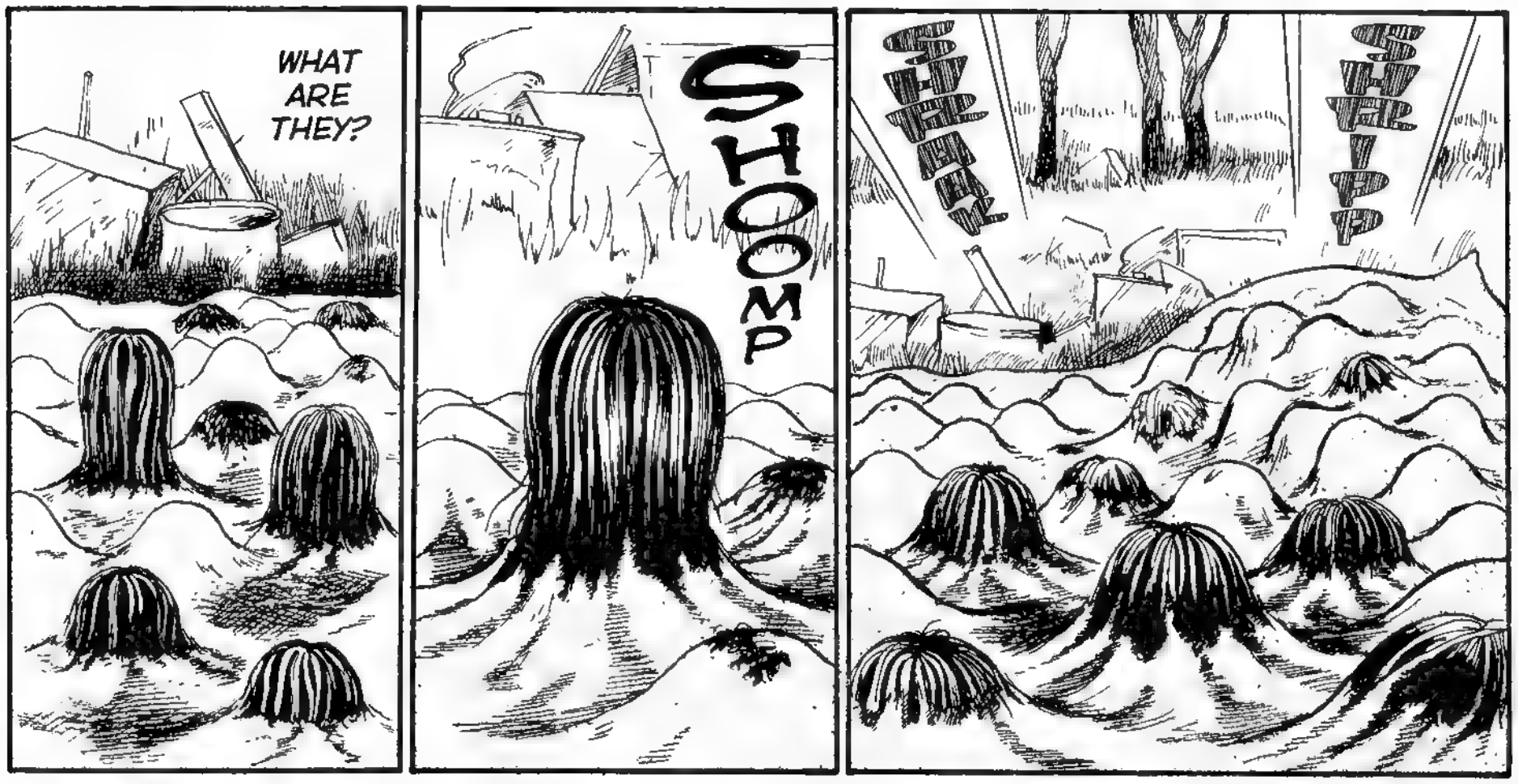
THAT SWELLING... DOESN'T SEEM NATURAL.

AS THE DAY WORE ON, MY PREMONITION PROVED SOLID.


BWOOP
BWOOP


...AN IRREGULAR GROUPING OF LUMPS.
SPREADING ITSELF ACROSS THE JUNK PILE, THE CARPET REVEALED...


WHAT DOES IT MEAN?


WHAT ARE THEY?
SHOOMP
SHIP
SHIP

...SLOWLY BUT SURELY... THEY GREW.

LITTLE BY LITTLE... DAY BY DAY...

...I KNEW EXACTLY WHAT THEY WERE.

THOUGH THEY FACED AWAY FROM ME...

AND I KNEW WHERE I'D SEEN THAT CARPET BEFORE. OF THAT, THERE WAS NO MORE DOUBT.

THE TIME WOULD COME, EVENTUALLY.

AT THAT MOMENT, I'D SNEAK AWAY FROM MY BED.

AND SOMEHOW, I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE TELLING ANYONE.

YOU'D THINK SOMEONE WOULD'VE NOTICED, BUT WHO LOOKS AT A DUMP, ANYWAY?

OH, HELL...

THIS IS IT, THEN.

THEY FINALLY NOTICED ME.

THEIR VOICES... I HEAR THEM! I CAN HEAR THEM SHRIEK!

AS ONE, THEY TURNED TO ME, THEIR HANDS EXTENDED, GROPING, SEARCHING!

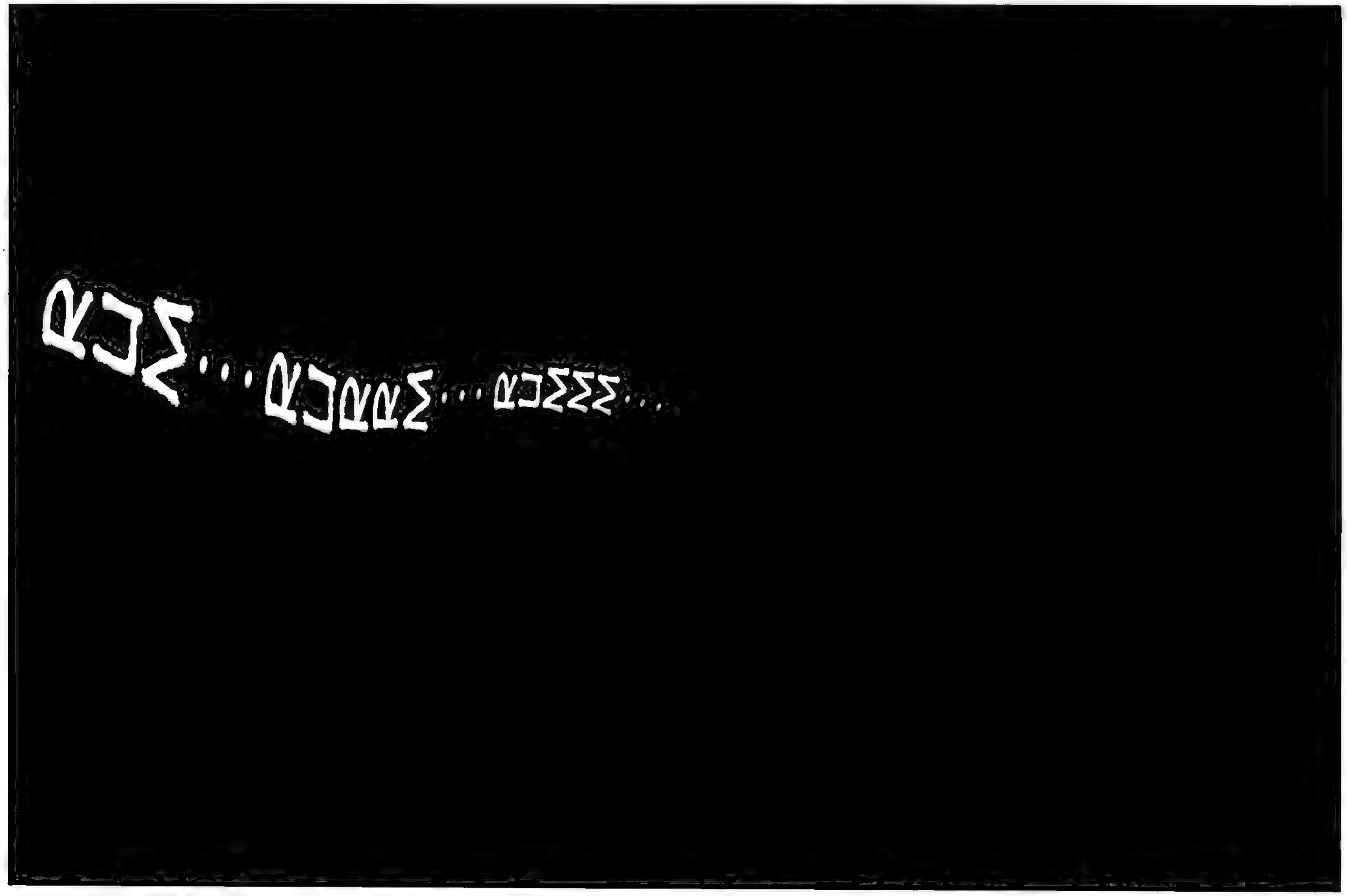
YAMA-ZAKI! HOLD ME!

YAMA-ZAKI! HOLD ME!

屋敷

やしき

MANSION



WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE GEEZER SHUT UP IN THERE, EH? IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE HE'S SHOWN HIS FACE AT TOWN HALL.

HE'S SHOWN ME HIS FACE THROUGH THE WINDOW, BRIEFLY, WHENEVER I'VE ASKED HIM.

IT'S FASTER WHEN YOU'RE COOPED UP IN A TOWN MEETING ALL DAY. HONESTLY.

MY, MY, UKI. HOW QUICKLY LIGHT CAN FADE.

OH, SHE'S THERE. I SEE HER, TIME TO TIME.

AND HIS DAUGHTER?

RATHER UNSEASONABLE, WOULDN'T YOU SAY...?

THUNDER ...?

RUMUM... RUMM...

HMM?

SPISH
SPISH

SPISH
SPISH

RUMM

SPISH
SPISH

I'VE FOUND OUT WHERE SHE IS NOW.

IS IS OKAY IF I BRING HER HERE?

WHAT IS IT?

UM...

GREAT... THANKS, FATHER.

SURE. I'D LOVE TO MEET HER, TOO.

YOU DON'T NEED TO PRETEND...

HEY, DROP THE ACT.

IT'S NOT THUNDER, AND YOU KNOW IT.

HMM... IT'S NOT LETTING UP.

PLIP PLIM MURR

PERHAPS WE'RE DUE FOR SOME RAIN.

MY DEAR GIRL, DON'T TOY WITH THE FISH TANK. IT'S NOT HEALTHY. COME, PUT THE LID ON.

SPI-SH SPI-SH

MAYBE HE WASN'T YET RID OF HER, THEN?

YAMAZAKI'S WHEREABOUTS UNKNOWN?

To Tsukiko Izumisawa

I HAD BEGUN TO FORGET, AND TO PUT IT BEHIND ME.

WITH IT, EVERYTHING CAME BACK TO ME, NUMBING ME WITH AN OMINOUS FEELING.

THEN THIS LETTER CAME FROM MY BEST FRIEND, MICHIKO.

IT WASN'T SO LONG AGO THAT I MOVED HERE. IN MY OLD TOWN, SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAPPENED.

I'M TSUKIKO IZUMISAWA.

I DON'T EVEN WANT TO REMEMBER. IT INVOLVES AN OLD CLASSMATE WHO CALLED HERSELF "TOMIE."

I GOTTA ASK HER MORE ABOUT IT.

I SHOULD GO NOW. CAN'T JUST SIT HERE.

I SHOULD GO SEE MICHIKO.

I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S GONE MISSING...

IT FITS THE PATTERN, ANYWAY. OVER AND OVER, HE KEPT FALLING FOR HER. AND NOW...

SOMEHOW... I GET THE FEELING TOMIE'S BEHIND THIS.

SKREEE

VRRRM

LONG TIME NO SEE, TSUKIKO.

?

K-CHAK

TOMIE !!

THEN YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE YAMAZAKI?

W-WHAT?!

I-I'VE GOT NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU.

THAT SO?

THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU, TSUKIKO.

HEY, YOU'RE NOT RUNNING, ARE YOU?

YOU KNOW, HE'S BEEN ASKING FOR YOU... COMING OR NOT?

HE'S NOT DOING WELL. HE'S SO THIN I'M AFRAID THAT IF I LOOK AT HIM HE'LL SNAP.

HE'S AT MY PLACE.

SO, YOU COMING ?

I KNEW IT!

HEY... WAIT.

DON'T SAY I DIDN'T ASK. SEE YA!

...

VROOO

I'LL GO.

THEN GET IN.

KRAH KRAHK

FATHER, WE HAVE A VISITOR.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? BIG, ISN'T IT?

MY DAUGHTER TOLD ME A GREAT DEAL ABOUT YOU.

THANKS FOR COMING. WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

AH...MY CAMERA! IT WAS STOLEN FROM MY ROOM...

SADLY, MY PICTURES DON'T TURN OUT QUITE SO WELL.

YOUR EYE FOR DETAIL BORDERS ON THE PRETERNATURAL.

EGRON

I'VE BEEN FASCINATED WITH THESE PICTURES YOU TOOK OF MY DAUGHTER.

YOU APPEAR TO HAVE SOME EXTRAORDINARY TALENT.

AH HA HA HA HA!

TELL ME. WHERE'S YAMAZAKI?

PLEASE LET HIM GO.

OH, QUIT IT, FATHER.

WHAT DO YOU SAY? WANT TO FIRE IT UP AGAIN?

BUT YOU...

YOU THINK I CARE THAT MUCH ABOUT ANY MAN?

WHY THE HECK WOULD HE BE HERE?

WHAT GOOD IS HE?

HER ONLY REAL INTEREST IS IN HERSELF.

MY DAUGHTER SEES MEN AS LITTLE MORE THAN ADORNMENTS.

STRANGE THING IS, WHEN A MAN FALLS TOO FAR, TOO HARD, HE WANTS TO CUT HER TO PIECES.

I WANT TO KNOW WHAT MAKES THEM DO THAT.

IT'S NOT THAT SHE WANTS THEIR LOVE.

JUST A BOOST TO HER EGO. THAT'S ALL SHE CARES ABOUT.

SHE WANTS TO BE DESIRED. TO SEE HOW FAR SHE CAN LEAD MEN.

MEN, OF COURSE, WILL TAKE IT ALL WRONG AND FALL FOR HER.

AND THAT'S NOT ALL. LATELY WE'VE BEEN FACED WITH A NEW TWIST.

GIVE ME BACK MY CAMERA!

IF YAMAZAKI ISN'T HERE, I'M LEAVING!

EVERY TIME THEY DO, YOU SEE...

...SHE BEGINS TO MULTIPLY AGAINST HER WILL.

THE DOUBLE WILL EMERGE FROM THE CRANIUM.

MY DAY-TO-DAY RESEARCH IS CONCERNED WITH PREVENTING HER MULTIPLICATION OUTRIGHT.

IT SEEMS THAT, WHEN FACED WITH ENOUGH PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA, TOMIE BEGINS TO SPLIT OF HER OWN ACCORD.

AH!

...
...

IS THIS A PART OF THAT RESEARCH, TOO?

FATHER.

...AND YET ITS REGENERATIVE ABILITY IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO WITHSTAND THE SOLUTION.

SEE THERE. THAT'S HOW HER HEAD SPLITS. THE STRENGTH OF THE ACID PREVENTS ANY FURTHER DEVELOPMENT ...

POP

ISN'T IT INCRED-IBLE?

...BUT IT'S WORTH THE CHAL-LENGE.

PLEASE, I BEG YOU... HELP ME IN MY EXPERI-MENTS.

YES, I'LL HAVE TO INJECT YOU WITH MY DAUGHTER'S BODILY FLUIDS AND OTHER QUESTIONABLE SUBSTANCES...

WHAT DO YOU THINK...? WILL YOU LEND ME A HAND IN MY RESEARCH...?

YOU GOTTA BE KIDDING! I'M LEAVING NOW.

DRIP DRIP

IT...IT WON'T OPEN...

TOMIE, COVER THAT BOWL!

ITS VAPORS WILL BURN OUR THROATS!

SPISH SPISH

HOW LONG ARE YOU GOING TO CHASE YOUR RABBIT?

BE PATIENT, JUST A LITTLE LONGER... I WILL CURE YOU.

WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE. REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE LAST GIRL?

FATHER.

BUT IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU QUIT.

CAN'T YOU TALK TO ME AS AN EQUAL, WITHOUT THAT GETUP?

BUT I'M SICK OF THIS GAME.

YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT.

I'VE GONE ALONG SO FAR BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WAS AMUSING.

GYAAHHH!

GUUUS

YOU'RE SO SHY.

KSSS

WAKE UP!

OKAY, CHARM-ING.

YAAAHH!

KLANGG

REE REE REE

!

GRUR

REE REE

YNAUKJW

AAA-
AAHH!

CHANGG

UPSTAIRS!
AFTER
HER!

AA-
AAH!

KA-CHANK

HUFF
HUFF

ARRR-
RRG!

WHAT... ON EARTH?

REE REE REE

OH... MAYBE IF I...

KLANGG KLANGG

HELP... ME...

!

B-TUM

BUT...I THOUGHT ...

HE'S AN IMPOSTOR!

SAVE ME...

I AM THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE?

WHO ARE YOU?

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

MR. TAKAGI.

HUFF HUFF

HEE... HEE HEE HEE...

THE MOMENT THE MASK COMES OFF YOU JUST CLAM UP, DON'T YOU?

MR. TAKAGI.

FOR ALL I KNOW, YOU COULD HAVE A HIDDEN AGENDA.

I WONDER IF YOU REALLY MEAN TO HEAL ME.

KRIZG

KRIZG

THEY'RE THE ONES WHO IMPRISONED ME HERE.

YOU POOR GIRL...WHAT ILL FORTUNE, FALLING IN WITH SUCH SCOUNDRELS ...

MY DAUGHTER'S THE ONE WHO OPENED THE DOOR.

ALONG CAME A YOUNG WOMAN, DRENCHED TO THE BONE.

LISTEN TO ME, WILL YOU? IT BEGAN IN THE EARLY SUMMER.

IT WAS AFTER DARK. IT HAD BEEN THUNDER-ING ALL DAY...

OUT OF PITY, MY DAUGHTER WAS ABOUT TO SHOW HER IN, WHEN THE WOMAN MENTIONED SHE HAD COMPANY.

OH MY! YOU POOR DEAR. PLEASE, COME IN.

THE WOMAN, OF COURSE, ASKED TO STAY THE NIGHT.

THE MAN ESPECIALLY. HE DIDN'T SPEAK A WORD. AND HIS EYES LOOKED ABNORMAL.

SHE LET THEM IN, BUT THEY MADE ME FEEL UNCOMFORT-ABLE...

BEHIND HER STOOD A MAN...

PRETEND-ING TO BE US...

...AND NOW, NIGHT AFTER NIGHT, THEY CONTINUE THEIR GODLESS RESEARCH.

I SHOULD HAVE DRIVEN THEM AWAY RIGHT THEN AND THERE.

OVERNIGHT, THEY TOOK OVER THE PLACE.

KREE
REE

IT'S STARTED AGAIN.

THUN-
DER...

RUMM
RUMM

IT'S THE GROAN OF MY DAUGHTER... ALL HER RAGE AND SORROW.

THAT'S NO THUNDER...

GET AWAY FROM HERE. AS FAST AS YOU CAN.

KLANGG
KLANGG

IF THEY CATCH YOU— IT'S NOT EVEN WORTH THINKING ABOUT.

KREE

MY ONLY DAUGH-
TER!

THEY USED HER, YOU KNOW, IN THEIR EXPERI-
MENTS.

THE DEMONS! SHE WAS SUCH A LOVELY CHILD...

REEE RREE REE REE

SKANG

BAM

RUN! H-HURRY!

UH!

CHONG!

EEEK!

STOP THERE!

HEH HEH HEH.

IT FIGURES ...

DEAD END. DAMMIT.

I'M... I'M ARMED!

UH.

RUNK

CLINK

THONK

CHAK

EEEE...
KREE...

YEEEK!

SKRUK

GAH!

TAICHI!

SPLAZOO

IS THAT WHY...THEY BROUGHT ME?

THOSE FACES, ALL OVER HER BODY? THEY'RE ALL TOMIE. BUT WHY? IS THAT WHAT THEY'RE DOING HERE?

CAN THAT... BE THE DAUGH-TER?!

KLAGG

NGAACK!

I'LL BE BACK, OLD MAN... JUST HOLD ON.

YOU ARE A LUCKY GIRL, TSUKIKO.

MY TRUE ESSENCE ...?

TOMIE...YOUR TRUE ESSENCE IS ON ITS WAY DOWN NOW.

BUT NOTHING LASTS FOREVER.

YOU CAN'T FLUSTER ME ANY-MORE.

NICE TRY. BUT NOTHING YOU CAN SAY WILL AFFECT ME.

WHO—

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT? I CAN BE REALLY INCISIVE.

HEH HEH HEH.

TSUKIKO... PLEASE... LET US EXPERIMENT ON YOU.

?

NGUR-GH!

KREE-AAAH!

YOU'RE THE WORST PHOTOG-RAPHER EVER!

STOP IT!

FWASHH

IN MY FRENZY, THE FLASH SHOT OFF LIKE A STROBE.

KREE-AAAH!

I GUESS I FOUND THE WAY OUT, AND BOLTED FOR MY LIFE.

AFTER THAT— IT'S ALL BLANK.

NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS OUTSIDE THE MANSION WALLS.

THEY RESCUED THE GAUNT OLD MAN FROM THE SECOND FLOOR. BEYOND THAT, THERE WASN'T A CLUE.

NO SIGN OF WHERE THEY WENT. NO SIGN OF THE MONSTER.

...THE MANSION WAS ALREADY EMPTY.

WHEN THE POLICE CAME...

THERE WAS ONE PICTURE, TAKEN BY THE STAIRS— IT DEPICTED NEITHER TOMIE NOR THE MONSTER.

RATHER, THE IMAGE OF A SAD YOUNG WOMAN FADING INTO SHADOW.

I HANDED OVER THE PHOTOS FROM THOSE LAST FRANTIC MOMENTS.

NOT THAT ANY OF THEM CAME OUT PROPERLY.

MANSION / END

REVENGE
ベンジ
富江・復讐
とみ

THE SNOW'S STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE DODGY.

WHOO ...

I'M FINE, HAMA-GUCHI.

TANIMURA, YOU DOING OKAY?

IT'S ALREADY THREE O'CLOCK ...

WE'D BETTER MOVE IT IF WE WANT TO MAKE IT BY SUNSET.

ALL RIGHT... LET'S DO IT IN ONE PUSH.

BUT KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED JUST THE SAME— ALL RIGHT?

DOI, YOU ALL RIGHT?

YEAH, CAPTAIN. JUST DANDY.

HEY ...

THERE! SEE IT?

WHAT?

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT?

WHAT, A CORPSE ?!

WHAT'S... IS THAT... A WOMAN ...?

I DON'T GET IT. WHY'S SHE... LIKE THAT?

LOOKS THAT WAY.

SURE. PIECE OF CAKE.

YOU OKAY? CAREFUL, DOI.

CRUNCH

IT REEKS OF FOUL PLAY.

THE BODY... LOOKS LIKE IT'S BEEN SHOVED INTO THIS CRACK IN THE ROCK...

CRUNCH

WHOA!

WHAA... SHLURGE

TANI-MURA! KEEP IT TOGETH-ER!

OH, MAN. IS HE ALL RIGHT? WE'VE GOT TO GO AFTER HIM.

DOI !!

SHE'S STILL ALIVE, BUT OUT HERE SHE HASN'T GOT MUCH LONGER.

UNTIL THEN, WE TEND TO THE GIRL.

THAT'S A MASSIVE CLIFF THERE.

WE MAY HAVE TO CALL FOR A RESCUE PARTY.

WE'RE COMING FOR YOU!
HEY!

...

WHOOO

I'M SO... COLD ...

AHH... C-COLD ...

IT'S NO WONDER—ALL YOU'RE WRAPPED IN IS A SLEEPING BAG. HOLD TIGHT. YOU'LL BE IN A WARM CABIN IN NO TIME.

I'M... SO COLD ...

AHH, SO... COLD...

PLEASE... DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING WARMER?

I'M ABOUT TO FREEZE TO DEATH.

PLEASE ...

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S WISE?!

WHOOO

HAMA-GUCHI...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. LET'S JUST GO.

THIS IS CRAZY! YOU KNOW HOW FAR WE'RE GOING. AND YOU KNOW THE RISK. WITHOUT PROTECTION YOU DON'T STAND—

YEAH... I'M OKAY.

CAN YOU WALK?

NOD

HAMA-GUCHI, THIS IS RIDICU-LOUS.

SHIVER

SHIVER

AT LEAST WRAP A SHEET OR A TOWEL—

SHUT UP! WE WALK IN SILENCE !!

...

IT'S NOT NECESSARY! ALL RIGHT?!

LISTEN, I'LL GIVE YOU HALF OF WHAT I'M WEARING. YOU DON'T NEED TO—

SHK-

SHK-

IF WE HANG AROUND, WE'LL BE CAUGHT AFTER DARK.

WHOOO

ACTU-ALLY...

HAMA-GUCHI... YOU SURE WE'RE GOING THE RIGHT WAY?

CAPTAIN, IT'S GETTING DARK... WE'LL HAVE TO CAMP OUT.

HUFF HUFF

I... THINK WE'RE LOST...

IT WAS IN DOI'S PACK.

NO TENT, REMEM-BER?

I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE OVERNIGHT. TAKE ME SOMEPLACE WARM.

NO.

BIVOUAC, THEN! WE HAVE A SHEET, ANYWAY.

YEAH... ALL RIGHT.

CAPTAIN, PLEASE... CAN'T WE JUST GO TO THE CABIN?

ARE YOU NUTS? IF WE KEEP ON LIKE THIS, WE'LL ALL BE DEAD. CAN'T YOU SEE THE CAPTAIN IS ALREADY AT HIS LIMIT?

HAMA-GUCHI!

O-OKAY... LET'S GO...

WHOOO

WHAT'S WITH YOU?! NEVER MIND RECKLESS, THIS IS INSANE!

MY BOY-FRIEND... HE DESERTED ME...

...YOU WERE LYING NAKED LIKE THAT?

HOW IS IT...

THAT'S NO KIND OF A BOY-FRIEND.

ABANDON SOME-ONE SO BEAUTI-FUL?

DE-SERTED YOU?

THAT'S RIGHT...

THE CAPTAIN REALLY HAS LOST IT, HASN'T HE.

WHAT THE ...?

NEVER!

TAKE ME—YOU THINK I WOULD LEAVE YOU OUT HERE? HA! NOT IF IT KILLED ME.

YOU OKAY ?

TIZUI

I CAN'T WALK ANY FAR-THER.

HEY!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!

HMM... WHAT ABOUT HIM?

WILL YOU CARRY ME?

COME ON!

FINE... JUST CLIMB ON MY BACK.

WHOOO

...

BUT HE'S A LOT MORE ATTRACTIVE.

A ROOKIE LIKE HIM? I WON'T ALLOW IT. HE DOESN'T HAVE THE EXPERIENCE.

...BUT...

TANI-MURA... CAN YOU CARRY HER ON YOUR BACK?

IT'S YOU SHE WANTS! SO DO IT!

DIDN'T YOU HEAR HER?

GIVEN THAT SHE CAN'T EVEN WALK, I DON'T THINK WE'LL FIND A BETTER TIME.

CAPTAIN, ABOUT THAT BIVOUAC.

DAMN...THIS IS TURNING INTO A FULL-FLEDGED BLIZZARD.

WHOOO

CRAP!

CRAP!

CRAP...

CRAP.

CRAP... CRAP!!

THERE HE GOES. THE EXHAUSTION MUST BE TOO MUCH FOR HIM. IF I CAN JUST GET US TO STOP, MAYBE...

YOU TWO... GETTING COZY?

CRAP!!

TAN... TANIMURA ...HOW DOES IT FEEL?!

CAPTAIN ...

HUFF HUFF

RRNCH

HAVING HER ON YOUR BACK... DOES IT EXCITE YOU?

SUCH A BEAUTI-FUL WOMAN ...

YOU'RE JUST A BEGINNER. STOP WHINING.

YOU AND YOUR DAMNED BIVOUAC ...

WE NEED TO CAMP. PLEASE...

I CAN'T GO ON... I CAN'T WALK ANYMORE.

GOD-DAMMIT ...

AMATEURS... ALWAYS MONOPOLIZING... THE PROVISIONS...

...AN IDEA ...

YEAH, THAT'S ...

CRUNCH

HUH...

YEAH ...

EYAAHHH!

HAMA-GUCHI!

WE CAN SHARE HER! JUST SPLIT HER DOWN THE MIDDLE!

AH HA HA HA HA HA HA!

AH HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

HAMA-GUCHI!

THE CAPTAIN HAS GONE COM-PLETELY MAD!

LOOKS LIKE HE STRUCK PRETTY DEEP.

IT HURTS ...

HEY! YOU ALL RIGHT?!

IT HURTS ...

HAMAGUCHI!

HAMA-GUCHI!

HAMA-GUCHI!

HAMA-
GUCHI
...

OH...

I GUESS THIS IS WHAT EMERGENCY SHELTERS ARE HERE FOR.

WHAT SEREN-DIPITY.

OH...

YOUR WOUND... I'LL DRESS IT FOR YOU.

DON'T WORRY. IT'S ALREADY HEALED.

WHAT?

GIVE ME YOUR ARM.

...

SEE?

I HEAL REALLY FAST.

I MEAN IT.

THIS IS ALL SO SURREAL.

WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO?

WHOOO

THAT'S NOT IT.

IT'S NOT LIKE I CLIMBED UP HERE FOR FUN.

VACATION?

TEE HEE HEE. SOME VACATION, HUH.

ALL I HAVE IS A WITNESS WHO SAYS HE SAW HIM HEADING UP. ALONE AND ON FOOT. STILL, HERE I AM. I'LL TAKE ANY LEAD...

THE THING IS, I DON'T KNOW FOR SURE IF HE EVEN CLIMBED THIS MOUNTAIN... THERE'S NO REGISTRATION, NO HARD PROOF.

WHY DID YOU, THEN?

I'VE COME LOOK-ING FOR HIM.

IT'S MY BROTH-ER. HE'S BEEN MISS-ING FOR A MONTH.

IF HE DID COME THIS WAY, THEN HE COULD BE IN SERIOUS TROUBLE.

ONE STRANGE THING, THOUGH— MY BROTHER NEVER WENT UP A MOUNTAIN BEFORE WITHOUT REGISTERING. AT LEAST, ACCORDING TO HAMAGUCHI.

I DO KNOW THAT HE USED TO CLIMB AROUND HERE A LOT. HAMAGUCHI AND DOI WERE HIS BACKPACKING BUDDIES.

THEY WERE SORT OF A TEAM.

WANT ME TO LIGHT A FIRE?

WHOOO

HUFF... IT'S FREEZ-ING.

UNDER THOSE CONDITIONS, A COUPLE OF HOURS AT MOST.

WELL ...

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK?

HOW LONG WERE YOU LYING THERE NAKED?

IT'S TRUE. HE BROUGHT ME TO THIS MOUNTAIN A MONTH AGO AND HE...

...LEFT ME ALL OVER.

A MONTH? THAT'S... IMPOS-SIBLE.

I WAS LEFT LIKE THAT FOR A MONTH.

NUH-UH... TRY A MONTH.

HE SAID HE LOVED ME MORE THAN ANYTHING... BUT THEN HE WANTED TO GET RID OF ME.

IT'S... UPSET-TING.

UH-HUH. HE CUT ME TO PIECES AND DUMPED ME ON THIS MOUNTAIN.

LEFT YOU ALL OVER?

...

WILL HE THINK I'M A GHOST?

THIS WOMAN... IS SHE LOSING HER MIND TOO?

I WONDER WHAT HE'LL THINK... SEEING ME AGAIN...

I WILLED MYSELF BACK TO LIFE. I TOLD MYSELF THAT I WAS GOING TO TAKE REVENGE ON HIM.

...AFTER SCATTER-ING ME PIECE-MEAL ACROSS THE MOUNTAIN-SIDE.

IT'S A FUNNY THING... I HATE HIM SO, BUT MAYBE I'M STILL IN LOVE WITH HIM.

THAT'S WHY I WANTED YOU ALONE... SEEMS AT LAST I HAVE MY WISH.

ESPE-CIALLY AROUND THE EYES...

YOU... LOOK LIKE HIM...

WHOOO

HIS NAME... IS TETSUYA.

TE-TSUYA TANI-MURA.

WAS MY BROTHER... INVOLVED WITH HER?

ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ

ZZZ

I GUESS ...

SHE IS RATHER GORGEOUS, ISN'T SHE.

WHAT IS THIS FEELING ?

IT PUTS ME IN A STRANGE MOOD.

WHEN I LOOK AT HER, I...

YOU KNOW, MAYBE I CAN BELIEVE THAT.

SHE SAID SHE WAS CHOPPED TO PIECES.

HE CAME HERE TO DISCARD HER UNNOTICED.

MAYBE MY BROTHER REALLY DID CUT HER UP.

NO... THAT'S NOT IT.

WAS IT THAT HE DIDN'T WANT HER ANYMORE?

WAIT, WHAT AM I THINKING? IF THAT IS WHAT HAPPENED, THEN WHO THE HELL IS THIS WOMAN BEFORE ME?

...

SKRRRK RATTLE

IT WAS AN URGE THAT DROVE HIM. HE COULDN'T HELP IT.

IT WAS... AN EX-PRESSION OF HIS LOVE.

GWAAHHH!

HUFF HUFF

HUFF HUFF

WHY ...?

Y-YOU'RE JUST LIKE HIM...

I WAS OUT OF MY HEAD!

FOR-GIVE ME... I...

HUFF

HUFF

FUP

NUHH.

NO... FORGIVE-NESS...

FORGIVE ME... PLEASE FORGIVE ME.

HUFF HUFF

WHOOO

I'D BETTER CAMP HERE.

DAMN. I...I CAN'T KEEP ON LIKE THIS.

HUFF HUFF

CHURF

HUFF

HUFF

TETSU ...

GYAAA

HE'S... FROZEN STIFF.

BEEN DEAD FOR AGES, LOOKS LIKE...

KATSU

SHAK

SHURK

REVENGE / END

WATERFALL BASIN

滝壺

たきつぼ

TWO-THIRDS OF A MILE AWAY, CRADLED BY A MOUNTAINSIDE, ROARED A GREAT WATERFALL FEEDING A COOL BASIN.

DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS LAY A HUMBLE VILLAGE.

IT ALL STARTED WITH A VISITOR. A SINGLE UNREMARKABLE MAN.

FOR ALL ITS DESOLATION, IT WAS NOT UNTIL RECENTLY THAT THE SORROW OF THIS POOL CAME TO BE KNOWN.

AND FOR THIS HUMBLE MOUNTAIN VILLAGE, THE SUICIDES IT ENGENDERED WERE ONLY THE TERRIBLE BEGINNING...

THIS MAN, THEY SAY, WAS A TRAVELING SALESMAN, LADEN WITH AN UNUSUAL PRODUCT.

I HAVE PHENOMENAL NEWS.

EXCUSE ME, MA'AM, DO YOU HAVE A SPARE MOMENT?

NO, THANKS. I'M NOT INTER-ESTED.

WHAT DREADFUL WEATHER WE'RE HAVING TODAY.

GOOD AFTER-NOON...

THEY'RE NOT HERE. THEY ALL LEFT FOR THE CITY.

IF I MAY ASK, MA'AM, HOW ARE YOUR CHILDREN?

I'M NOT GONNA BUY ANYTHING.

I'M MERELY HERE TO OFFER YOU HAPPI-NESS.

HEE HEE HEE. OH, DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT GOING TO PRESSURE YOU INTO A SALE.

IT HAPPENS THAT I'VE JUST THE THING FOR A WOMAN IN YOUR POSITION.

KCHAK

WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?

LOOK!

WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

THE SAME OLD STORY. YES, IT'S HARD TO KEEP THEM DOWN ON THE FARM THESE DAYS. YOU MUST MISS THEM TERRIBLY...

THE TRICK IS, THIS PACKET HOLDS THE ESSENCE OF A GIRL...A GIRL WHO WAS ONCE VERY DEAR TO ME. YES, IT'S QUITE TRUE.

YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL GARDEN. WHY NOT TAKE THIS BUNDLE AND PLANT IT SOMEWHERE? WATER IT PERIODICALLY, TEND TO IT, AND EVENTUALLY YOU WILL BE BLESSED WITH A LOVELY NEW DAUGHTER.

THIS GIRL IS EXTREMELY PRETTY, AND WILL HAVE NO TROUBLE FINDING A HUSBAND AND GIVING YOU A SON-IN-LAW AND GRANDCHILDREN. AND SHE'LL HELP KEEP THIS VILLAGE ALIVE. WHAT COULD BE WORTH MORE THAN THAT?

DEPENDING ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES, HER DEVELOPMENT MAY AT FIRST LOOK UNUSUAL, BUT YOU NEED NOT WORRY. ONCE SHE MATURES SHE WILL TAKE A STANDARD HUMAN FORM.

THE VILLAGERS MOSTLY IGNORED HIM, SAVE FOR ONE...

THE MAN VISITED EVERY HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE, PEDDLING HIS WEIRD BUNDLE.

I ASK ONLY 50,000 YEN.

I THINK I LEFT THE KETTLE ON.

HEY, W— MA'AM!

AND WHEN HE LOOKED INSIDE THE PACKAGE...

OUT OF CURIOSITY, ONE VILLAGER GAVE IN.

GARR! THAT NO-GOOD SON OF A...

SPAM

TRASH

...HE FOUND A GNARLED LUMP OF MEAT.

WHAT DREADFUL WEATHER WE'RE HAVING TODAY.

GOOD AFTER-NOON, SIR.

JUST GIVE UP! THE WHOLE TOWN'S WISE TO YOUR TRICKS! GET OUT NOW, IF YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOOD FOR YA!

YOU! WHAT, YOU'RE STILL AROUND?!

HEY, HOLD IT!

WOOSH

DAMN... COME ON, WE'LL TEACH HIM!

HEY, LOOK... HE'S STILL HERE!

HUFF
HUFF

STOP!

!

AAAHHH

I GET YOU. HOLD ON A MOMENT.

AH HA HA HA!

K-CHAK

SAY YOUR PRAYERS, STRANGER.

SLOOM

SO IF I DO THIS, YOU'LL LET ME OFF THE HOOK?

PISH

PISH

AND STAY OUT!

OH DEAR. WHAT A LOSS.

ONCE HE HAD DISPOSED OF THE FINAL PACKET, THE MAN LEFT THE VILLAGE FOREVER.

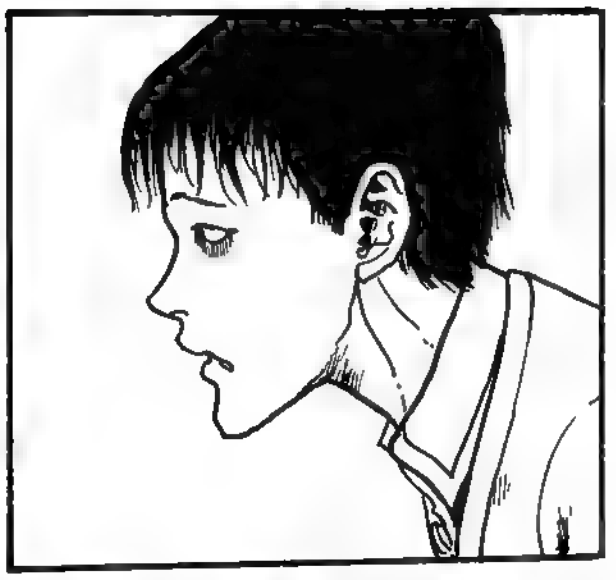
THEY CAME TO THE WATERFALL LIKE MOTHS TO A FLAME.

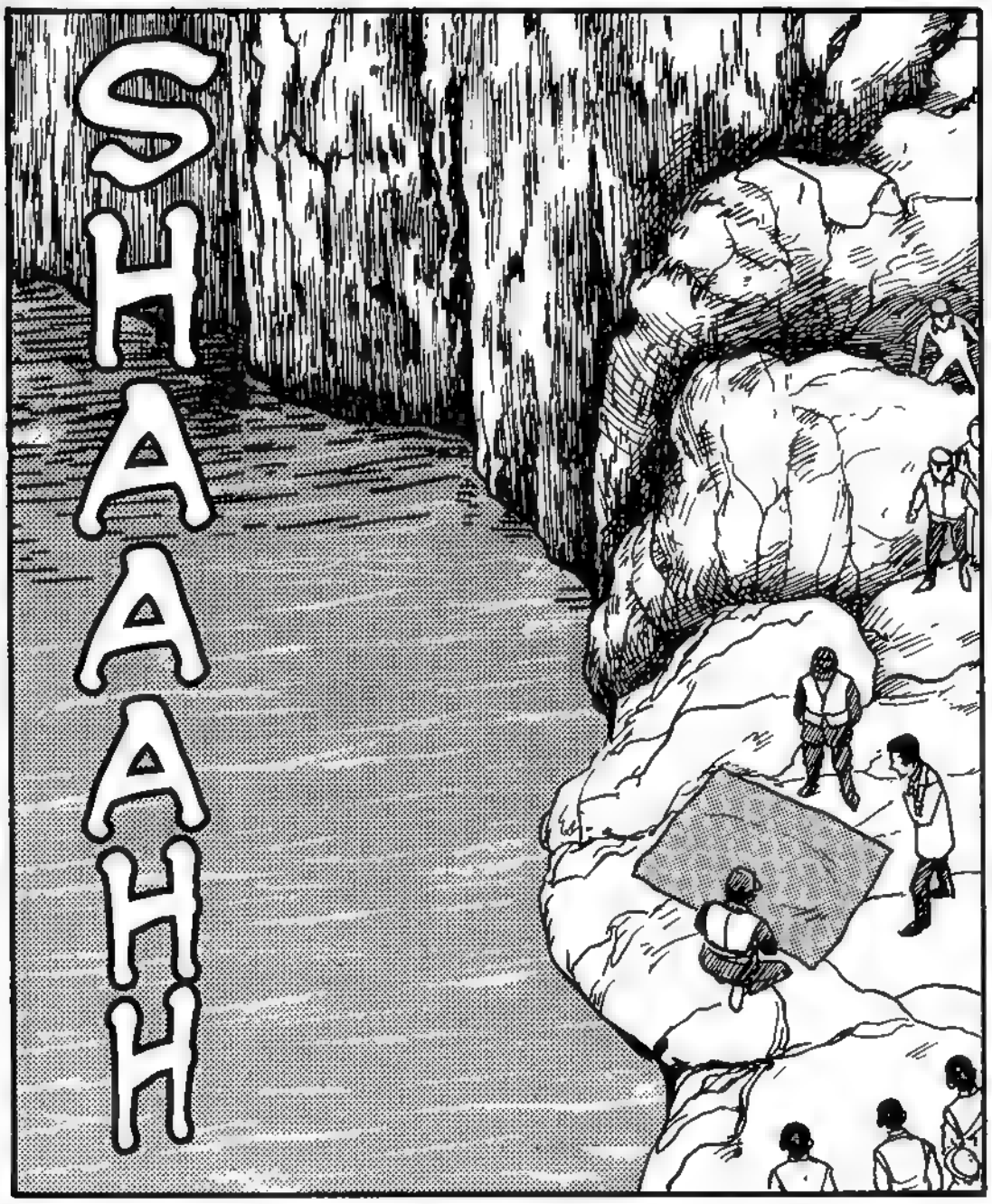
IT WAS SOME TIME AFTER THAT WHEN THE SUICIDES BEGAN.

KKSHAAAAAHHH

SHAAAHH

SPOOKS




AAAHH

HEY, WE'VE GOT ANOTHER ONE!

NO LESS STRANGE THAN THE OTHERS.

HOW'S IT LOOK?

I TELL YOU, IT'S ODD. WE'VE NEVER HAD THIS MANY SUICIDES BEFORE...

LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN GNAWED ON ALL OVER.

IF THAT'S FROM FISH, THEN YOU SURE GOT SOME FISH HERE.

KKSHAAAAHHH

HEY... YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

KKSHAAAAHHH

THE SUICIDES CONTINUED UNABATED.

It's dark and cold on the other side. Think again carefully.

ODDLY, IT WAS ONLY YOUNG MEN WHO LEAPT INTO THE ABYSS.

IT CREEPS ME OUT, THOUGH, FISHING AT A PLACE KNOWN FOR SUICIDES.

YEAH! I HEAR THIS PLACE HAS SOME WEIRD-ASS FISH.

KKSHAAAAHHH

HEH...YOU FEELIN' LIKE JUMPING IN?

TANK

TTUNG TUNG

I GOT ONE!

SHAAAHH

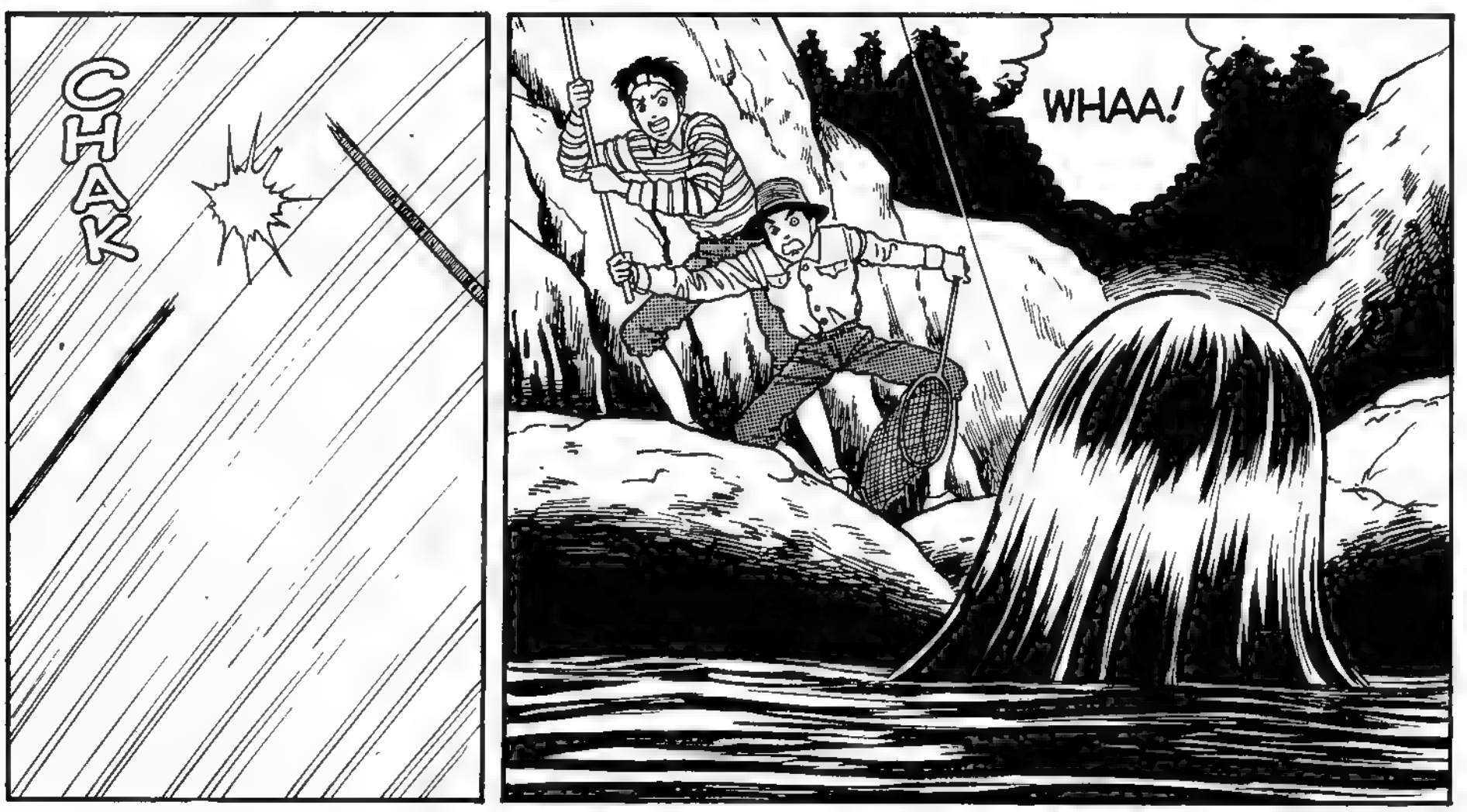
GOD, I HOPE I DON'T BREAK THE POLE.

HELP ME OUT!

IT'S FRICKIN' BIG!

YEAH.

FWOOSH
GRNG


CHAK
WHAA!

BLUBB BLUBBLUB

A WOMAN... I SNAGGED... A WOMAN!

W-WHAT WAS THAT?!

SOMEONE'S GOT TO DRAG OUT THE BODY.

SHIN? WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU—

MUST'VE JUMPED OFF LAST NIGHT.

IT'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER CORPSE.

SPOOSH

...MINUTES PASSED, AND THE FISHERMAN FAILED TO SURFACE.

HOW-EVER...

OH DAMN.

THE OTHER FISHERMAN GREW CONCERNED. EVENTUALLY HE COULD WAIT NO LONGER.

PLOOSH

THERE'S THE WOMAN ...

WAIT.

UNZUH UNZUH

HM?

IS IT... ROOTED INTO THE ROCK?

WHAT? HER OTHER HALF...

UNZUH UNZUH

SHIN!

HEY THERE, HANDSOME, WANT TO CUDDLE?

AHHH!

GURK!

TEE HEE HEE. NO USE ESCAPING...

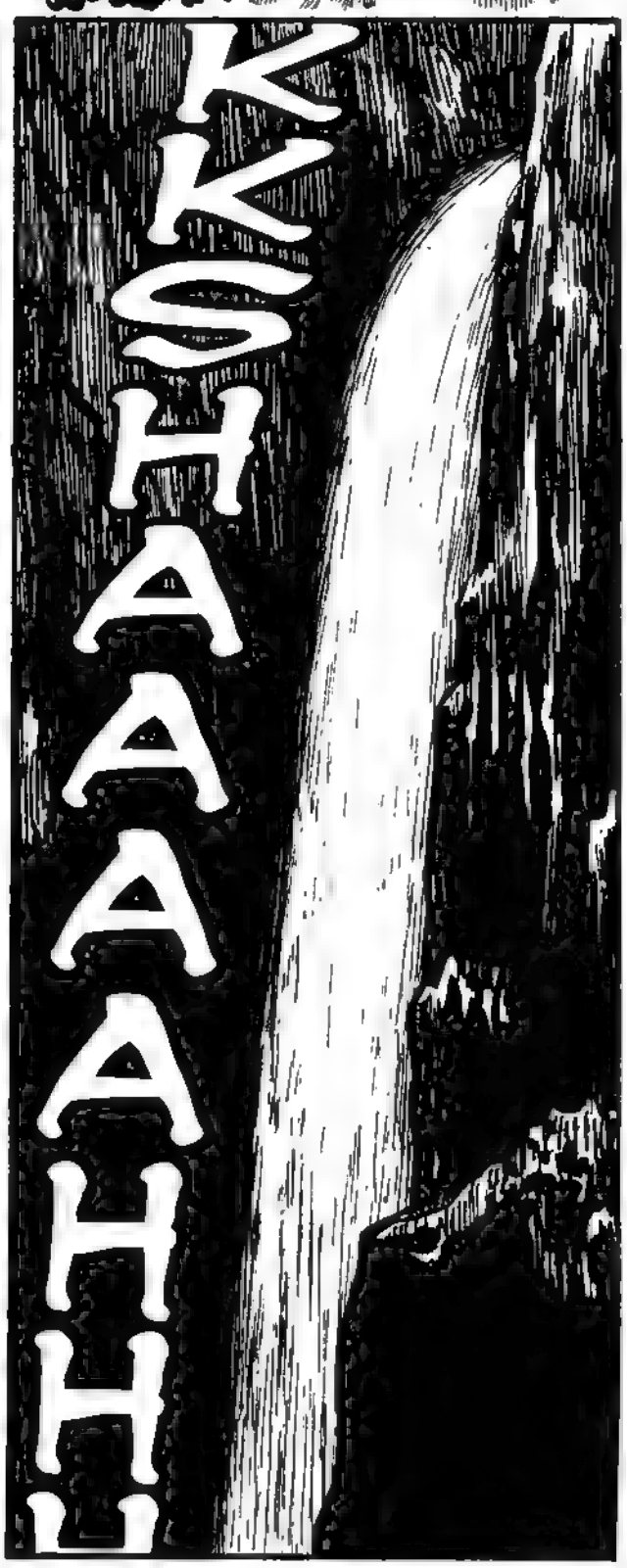
AND NO ONE BELIEVED THE MAN'S STORY.

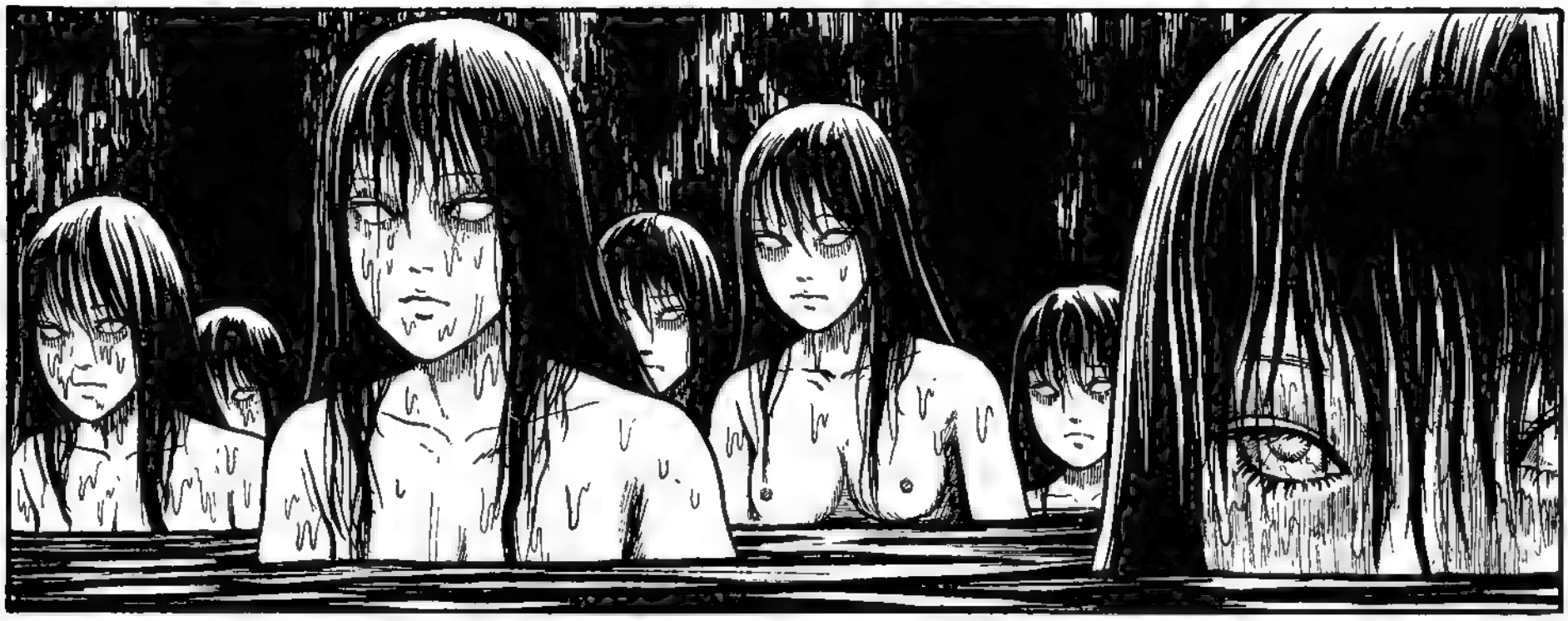
THE TERRIBLE WOMEN, HOWEVER, WERE NOWHERE TO BE SEEN.

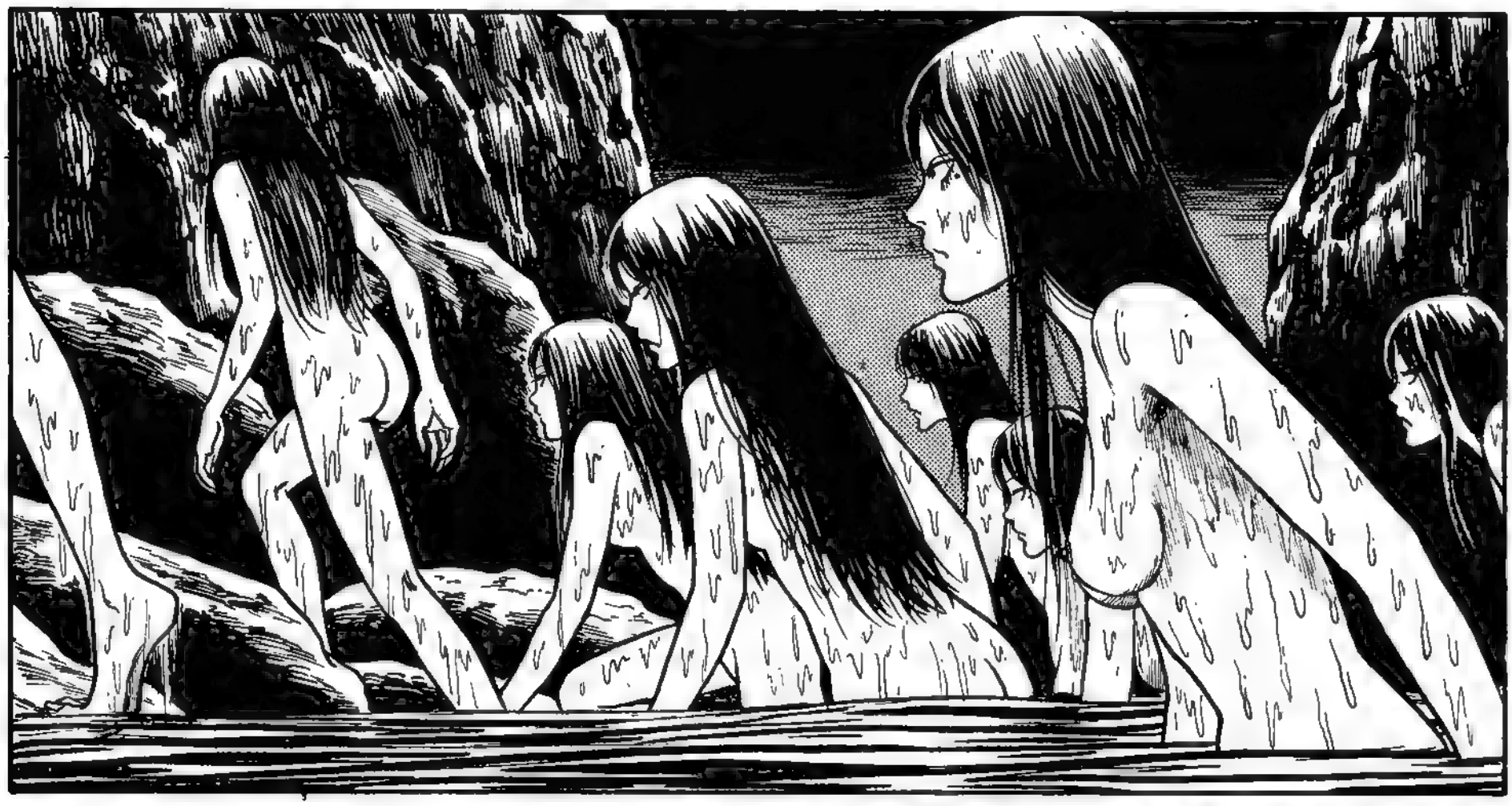
THEY FOUND THE PITIFUL BODY OF HIS FRIEND.

THE FISHERMAN DESCRIBED WHAT HE HAD SEEN, AND THE VILLAGERS SCOURED THE BASIN.

TIME PASSED. MEMORIES GREW SOFT. THEN AN EVENT OCCURRED THAT THE VILLAGERS COULD NOT SO EASILY IGNORE.







TRUM
TRUM

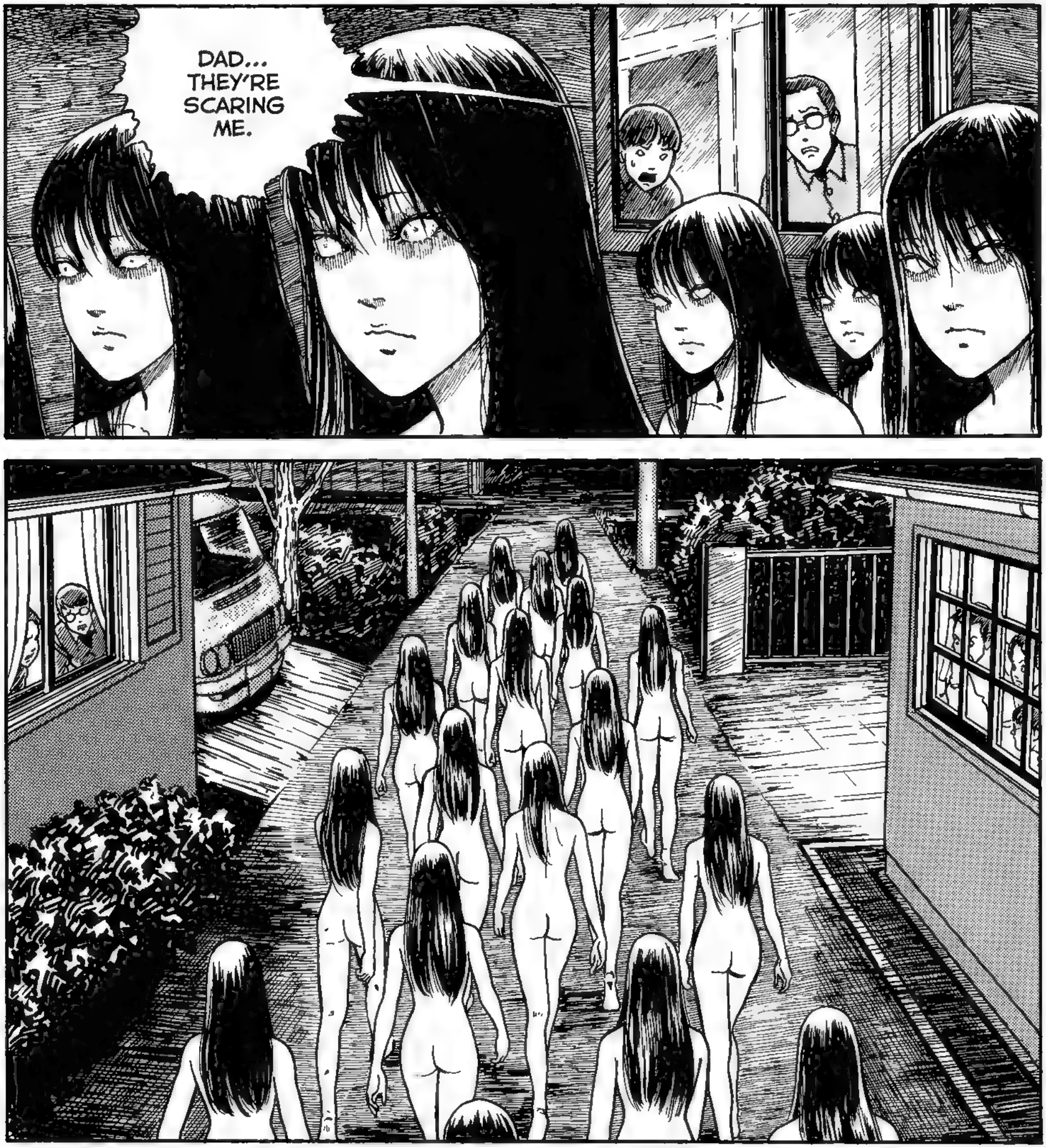
WHAT'S WRONG?

DAD, COME HERE! LOOK!

THEY'RE ALL NAKED... AND ALL THE SAME.

WHAT A STRANGE PARADE...

GRACE


DAD... THEY'RE SCARING ME.

EVENTUALLY, THE STRANGE THRONG SCATTERED AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE DARKNESS FROM WHENCE IT CAME.
EVERYBODY WITNESSED THE BIZARRE PROCESSION.

PAINTER

画家

I'M A PAINTER... A VERY TALENTED PAINTER. SEE HERE. THIS IS MY WORK.

IT'S MY MASTERPIECE, ACTUALLY. I CALL IT "TOMIE."

BUT ALAS, NO ONE RECOGNIZES THE QUALITY OF THIS PAINTING. AND WITH MY REPUTATION IN THE GUTTER, I DOUBT ANYONE WILL WITHIN MY LIFETIME. AND TO THINK I HAD ONLY JUST REACHED MY ARTISTIC PEAK...

WHAT DO YOU THINK? GREAT, ISN'T IT? TOMIE IS THE BEST SUBJECT I'VE EVER COME ACROSS. MORE THAN A SUBJECT, SHE'S A THEME.

GALLERY MINAMI
I STILL REMEMBER. IT WAS THE DAY OF MY THIRD GALLERY OPENING...
IF I HADN'T MET HER, I'D BE WORKING ON SOME STUPID COMMISSION RIGHT NOW, ENJOYING MY TIME IN THE SPOTLIGHT.
I BLAME TOMIE...THAT DREADFUL GIRL.
Rising Artist Mitsuo Mori Exhibition
The Ennui of "Nana"

THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP. I'M RELIEVED YOU'VE MANAGED TO SELL THEM ALL.

THE DEMAND FOR YOUR "NANA" SERIES IS SIMPLY REMARKABLE.

WELL, MR. MORI, LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STILL BATTING A THOUSAND.

I DARESAY YOUR COLORS ARE QUITE UNUSUAL.

AND YOU ARE POPULAR. AND TALENTED. A VERITABLE PIONEER IN CONTEMPORARY PAINTING.

MODESTY HAS ITS LIMITS, YOU KNOW. WHEN YOUR WORK IS SO POPULAR IT'S USED IN TV COMMERCIALS, THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN ADD.

BETTER GET USED TO IT, MR. MITSUO MORI.

SHE'S IN-SPIRED ME TREMEN-DOUSLY. AS LONG AS SHE'S AROUND, I'M SURE I'LL HAVE SOME-THING TO SAY.

WELL...IT'S REALLY NANA'S DOING THAT I'VE MADE IT THIS FAR. MY SUBJECT, I MEAN. NANA HORIE. SHE'S JUST WONDERFUL.

CAN I HAVE YOUR AUTO-GRAPH?

MR. MORI!

I GET YOU... HER EMPTY LOOK MUST DRAG THE CREATIVITY OUT OF YOU. IT'S A FORCE OF NATURE!

HA HA HA!

MR. MORI!

CHATTER CHATTER

KYAAHH, I'M SO HAPPY!

TEP TEP

I'M SO HAPPY...

...

WHAT A BEWITCHING GIRL...

ANY OPINIONS?

EXCUSE ME, PLEASE.

WELL...

WHEN YOU LOOK CLOSELY... SHE'S CLEARLY A DIMWIT.

SHE'S PRETTY, ALL RIGHT, BUT...

TEE HEE HEE!

BUT...

YOU ARE TALENTED.

...IT'S THIS MODEL.

TEE HEE HEE...

AH HA HA HA...

GEEZ. DON'T THAT BEAT ALL...

REALLY THOUGH, MR. MORI. I'D BET A CHANGE OF MODEL WOULD DO YOU A WORLD OF GOOD.

HEH HEH HEH... I'M SORRY.

I SHOULDN'T BE SO CAVALIER IN ASKING FOR OPINIONS.

REALLY THOUGH ...

NOW I CAN'T GET HER BLASTED WORDS OUT OF MY HEAD.

HMPH ...

GOOD TIDINGS FOR THE NEXT EXHIBIT, I BET.

NANA, SOMEHOW YOU ONLY SEEM TO GET PRETTIER.

OH, MR. MORI. YOU'RE FLATTERING ME.

OH... NOTHING.

YOU'VE BEEN SPACED OUT FOR AGES. WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

WHAT'S WRONG, MR. MORI?

HO HO HO HO HO HO!

OH HO HO HO HO!

WE JUST MET THE OTHER DAY.

HEY. FOR-GOTTEN ME AL-READY?

WHO ARE YOU?! THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY !!

OH HO HO HO HO HO!

SHE'S...URM, A CUSTOMER I BUMPED INTO AT THE EXHIBIT.

MR. MORI, WHO IS THIS?

OH... YOU'RE THAT...

I THOUGHT YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE GOING TO BREAK UP WITH HER AND TAKE ME ON INSTEAD.

DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE STILL USING HER AS YOUR MODEL?

HEE HEE.

WHAT? OF COURSE NOT! SHE'S...

MR. MORI... IS THIS TRUE?

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

WHA—

I REMEMBER IT VERBATIM. YOU TOLD ME...

"THIS 'NANA' SERIES IS STARTING TO BORE ME. I'M TIRED OF DRAWING HER, BECAUSE WHEN YOU LOOK CLOSELY SHE'S CLEARLY A DIMWIT."

OH, MR. MORI... LET'S NOT PRETEND.

MR. MORI, I HAD NO IDEA YOU FELT THAT WAY!

NO, NANA, WAIT! YOU'VE GOT IT BACKWARD!

WHAT DID YOU SAY?!

WHA—

B-TUM

...

NANA!

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE? SHE'S MY PARTNER. I NEED HER FOR MY WORK.

WHAT A PEST ...

...

SOUNDS GREAT, DOESN'T IT?

WELL... WHY DON'T YOU TAKE ME ON AS YOUR MODEL?

I AM TOMIE.

MY NAME?

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, BY THE WAY?

OH, MR. MORI... YOUR HOUSE IS SUCH A GRAND OLD THING IT WAS EASY TO SPOT.

WHAT, DID YOU FOLLOW ME?

HMPH...I'M SURPRISED YOU COULD FIND MY HOUSE.

OF YOUR CALI-BER?

PERHAPS... BUT NEVER ANOTHER GIRL OF MY CALIBER.

OH DEAR. ARE YOU TELLING ME I SHOULD EXPECT MORE UNINVITED GUESTS LIKE YOU?

SEARCH TILL YOU DROP OR SIT HERE AND WAIT FOR HER—EITHER WAY, YOU'LL BE WASTING YOUR TIME.

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'LL STUMBLE ON ANOTHER GIRL AS BEAUTIFUL AS I?

I WONDER IF YOU CAN CAPTURE MY BEAUTY ON CANVAS.

LIKEWISE WITH THE PAINTINGS. YOU ARE A TALENTED ARTIST, AND YET...

YOU CER-TAINLY ARE CONFI-DENT.

THAT'S OUR DUTY, ISN'T IT? TO LEAVE OUR MARK BEFORE WE DIE? SURELY THOSE BLESSED WITH BEAUTY SUCH AS MINE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO RECORD IT BEFORE IT SLIPS AWAY FOREVER.

CAN YOU PRESERVE MY BEAUTY IN OIL? LEAVE A RECORD OF MY PASSING, TO BE ADMIRED BY GENERATIONS TO COME?

MANY ARTISTS HAVE PURSUED IT, BUT AS YET IT REMAINS ELUSIVE.

I WONDER HOW YOU'LL FARE.

THAT'S... NOT AN OPTION. I FIND SNAP-SHOTS DON'T DO ME JUSTICE.

A PHOTO-GRAPH?

CAN'T GET A MUCH BETTER RECORD THAN THAT.

SO WHY NOT TAKE A PHOTO? SIMPLE ENOUGH.

I THINK IT'S TIME TO DROP THE SUBJECT.

...

NOT PHOTO-GENIC, EH?

HUH ...

I DO THIS ALL THE TIME.

SINCE YOU ASK SO NICELY, I BELIEVE MY BRUSH IS SUFFICIENT TO PRESERVE YOUR ETERNAL BEAUTY.

YOU'RE VERY DIRECT. SO, LET ME LAY IT TO YOU STRAIGHT.

TAK

THE FIRST POR-TRAIT I FINISHED IN A WEEK.

IF I WAS COCKY, I HAD REASON TO BE. I KNEW MY TALENT. I KNEW IT'S WHAT HAD BROUGHT ME MY WEALTH AND MY FAME.

SURE, SHE WAS BEAUTIFUL— EXCEPTIONALLY SO. STILL, I THOUGHT I KNEW WHAT I WAS UP AGAINST. ALL I HAD TO DO WAS TRACK DOWN HER CHARM—AND CAPTURE IT.

WELL, THAT SEEMS LIKE ABOUT IT.

HMM...

YOU MEAN YOU'RE FINISHED? LET ME SEE.

OH NO, MR. MORI, YOU MUST BE JOKING.

HEE...

I DON'T WANT TO TOOT MY OWN HORN, BUT IT'S MARVEL-OUS.

JUST LOOK AT IT! YOU THINK THIS SILLY THING CAPTURES EVEN A TENTH OF MY BEAUTY?

HEY! NOW LISTEN. LET ME IN ON THE JOKE, WILL YOU?

OH HO HO HO HO!

W-WHAT?! HEY, HOLD...

I'M OFF TO FIND A REAL ARTIST.

FAREWELL... I DON'T FREQUENT TALENTLESS HACKS.

YOU KNOW, I REALLY THOUGHT YOU HAD IT IN YOU. BUT I GUESS I OVERRATED YOU, MR. MORI!!

I AM SO DISAP-POINTED.

THIS... CAN'T BE HAPPEN-ING...

B-THUM

SO WHY'D SHE REJECT YOU, HUH? MY MASTER-PIECE ...

HMPH ...

GLURP

ARGH... THAT DAMNED BITCH...SHE'S NOT A TALENT, JUST PRETTY, IS ALL. SHE'S NOT EVEN MY TYPE. PUFFED-UP PREENER.

...

IT WASN'T THE BOOZE, THOUGH. THE TRUTH WAS, THE PAINTING REALLY DIDN'T HOLD A CANDLE TO TOMIE'S CHARM. TEN PERCENT, LIKE SHE SAID.

OH, MAN. I'M DRUNK. ITS LUSTER HATH DULY BEGUN TO WANE.

IT WAS ONLY AFTER SHE POINTED IT OUT THAT I NOTICED.

SLAM

BUT IT WAS OVER. SHE NO LONGER GAVE ME THAT SPARK SHE USED TO.

IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE I LURED BACK NANA HORIE, AND RESUMED WORK ON MY OLD "NANA" SERIES.

MR. MORI? WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU'RE INSULT-ING ME!!

MY GOD!

M-MR. MORI!!

OH, I GIVE UP! THIS IS JUST STUPID!

OH, SHUT IT, WILL YOU? I CAN'T STAND LOOKING AT A DIMWIT LIKE YOU ANY LONGER. GET OUT OF HERE!

TELL ME, WHAT'S GOING ON? PLEASE EXPLAIN!

W-WHAT?! THAT'S... TERRIBLE!

HUFF HUFF

YES, FROM MEMORY... I'LL...I'LL PAINT...

I NEED TO PAINT. I MUST... TOMIE.

IT'S HER... I WANT TO PAINT...

TOMIE. IT'S... TOMIE...

TOMIE ...

TOMIE ...

SUP SUP

KAK KAK KAK

THIS ISN'T TOMIE!!

SHRAKK

NO!

YOU'RE ...

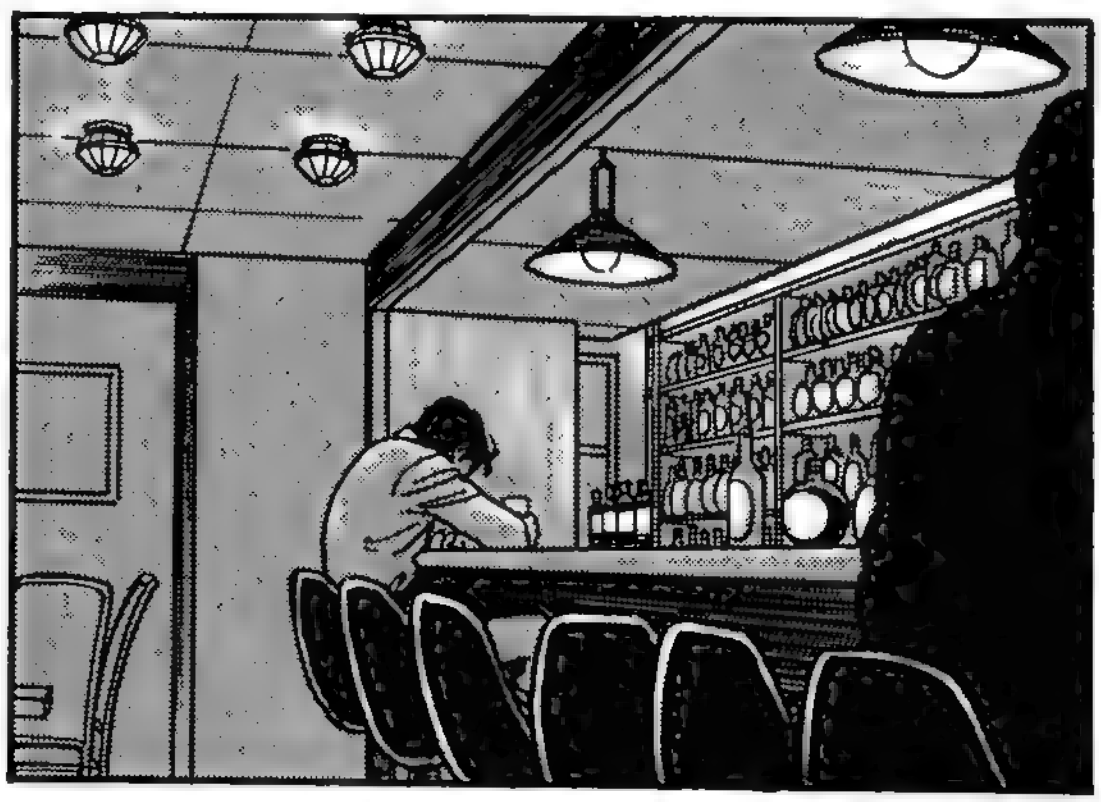
...

BAR RIBBON

HUFF HUFF

...TOMIE...

TOMIE...



MASUDA... HEY...BEEN A WHILE.

IS IT A GOOD IDEA FOR A HOT ARTIST LIKE YOU TO BE BURNIN' AWAY IN A HOLE LIKE THIS?

YO!! MORI, MY MAN! WHAT THE HELL YOU DOIN' HERE?

WELL, YOU TAKE GOOD CARE. I LIKE SEEING GUYS LIKE YOU DO WELL. AREN'T TOO MANY SUCCESSFUL ART SCHOOL GRADUATES OUT THERE.

NO...BUT YOU'RE NOT FAR OFF.

YOU SICK? WHAT'S THE DEAL THERE?

OH, BY THE BY, PEOPLE ARE SAYIN' YOUR NEXT SHOW HAS BEEN POSTPONED.

IWATA? WHAT, THE SCULPTOR? TADAO IWATA, WAS IT?

HEY, SPEAKING OF CAPS AND GOWNS— WHAT ABOUT IWATA? YOU HEAR THE BUZZ ABOUT HIM LATELY?

DIDN'T HE USED TO FIXATE ON ORDINARY PEOPLE? NEVER SEEMED LIKE THE GUY WOULD GO ALL TRENDY...

HMPH... DOES HE REALLY.

YEAH...HE'S BEEN BUSY AS HELL. HE'S GOT THIS WHOLE NEW LINEUP COMING. DAMN, THE TITLE...? IT'S THE MODEL'S NAME...

AH WELL, WHATEVER. ANYWAY, THE POINT IS, HE'S GOT AN EXCELLENT MODEL.

LIKE I SAID, IT'S HIS MODEL. SHE PROBABLY SHOWED HIM THE LIGHT. HELL, WITH A FIGURE LIKE THAT IN MY STUDIO, EVEN MY STILL LIFE WOULD GET ANIMATED.

THING IS, THE PICTURES ARE NO GOOD. TOO SLOW OF A SHUTTER, I GUESS.

OUT OF THREE SHOTS, THEY ALL TURNED OUT WEIRD.

...I WENT ALL PAPARAZZI ON 'EM...SEE, CHECK THIS OUT.

THE OTHER DAY, I GOT SO JEAL-OUS...

ALL BLURRED AND BIZARRE.

STILL. PRETTY, AIN'T SHE?

OH, YOU KNOW HER, HUH? YEAH, THAT'S IT. TOMIE. THAT'S WHAT HE CALLS THE SERIES, TOO.

TOMIE! HER NAME IS TOMIE!

THE WAY THIS "TOMIE" THING IS SELLING, I GUESS HE DOESN'T HAVE A LEG TO STAND ON ANYMORE. SO MUCH FOR SCRUPLES.

SO ANYWAY, IWATA'S ROCKETED UP TO FIRST CLASS NOW. HE'S THE MAN IN DEMAND. AND HE ALWAYS CALLED *YOU* COMMERCIAL...

...THEN WHAT CHANCE WOULD A MAN LIKE HIM HAVE? IT CAN'T BE...

NO, THAT'S ABSURD. IF I COULDN'T CAPTURE HER BEAUTY, IF I COULDN'T SATISFY HER DESIRES...

AND NOW HE'S THE STAR OF THE MOMENT. I WONDER. COULD HE...

SO SHE LEFT ME AND WENT STRAIGHT TO IWATA.

COULD HE HAVE SUCCEEDED WHERE I FAILED?

OH, DAMN HIS ASS. I GUESS I'D BETTER GO CHECK. IT'S MY DUTY...AS AN ARTIST. DID YOU SUCCEED, IWATA? DID YOU GET HER DOWN?

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT.

ACTUALLY... YEAH. I WOULDN'T PUT IT PAST HIM...IF IT WOULD DEGRADE ME, HE'D SEND HER...

HE ALWAYS WAS JEALOUS OF MY SUCCESS.

HE SENT HER. YEAH...HE HAD HER APPROACH ME. HAD ME PAINT HER, FIXATE ON HER. THEN SHE'D INSULT ME AND BREAK MY SPIRIT.

HANG ON... HERE'S A THOUGHT.

COULD THAT BE...? I MEAN, A PLOT OF THAT SCALE, IS IT CONCEIVABLE? IWATA...

BAM BAM BAM

HEY! IWATA! GET OUT HERE!

IWATA

IWATA

K-CHAK

CREAL

CREEAK

WHAT'S UP? GOT SOME LATE-NIGHT BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO?

OH...MORI, ISN'T IT. LONG TIME NO SEE.

HEY.

UH...

"TOMIE" IS MINE.

OH, THE "TOMIE" SERIES, YOU MEAN. I...DECIDED THEY ARE NO LONGER FOR PUBLIC VIEWING. THEY'RE NOT FOR SHOW, AND NOT FOR SALE.

IT'S JUST, YOU KNOW, IWATA, I'VE HEARD TALES OF THE SCULPTURES YOU'VE BEEN PUTTING OUT LATELY. I'D REALLY LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK.

AH...HA... NO...HA HA... NOTHING SO SERIOUS.

IF YOU'RE JUST HERE TO FALSELY ACCUSE ME, THEN GO AWAY.

WHAT ARE YOU TALK-ING ABOUT?

THAT'S...STRANGE. I THOUGHT THE WHOLE IDEA BEHIND THE LINE WAS TO SELL OUT, FOR FAME AND FORTUNE.

THAT'S WHY YOU GOT ME IN THIS PICKLE.

NOT SELLING? YOU REALLY...?

LET'S SEE HOW YOU DID WITH TOMIE. YOU GET HER BEAUTY DOWN COLD? YOU GET IT ALL?

I'M NOT LEAVING TILL I SEE THEM! I'LL FORCE MY WAY IN IF I HAVE TO!

WHOOPS, NOT SO FAST! YOU'RE NOT RID OF ME YET.

I SAID MOVE!

THOK

SHUT UP! MOVE IT, WILL YOU!

NO!! KEEP AWAY!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

RATTLE

HUFF

BUT THEY'RE RUINED.

LOOKS LIKE THE "TOMIE" SERIES, ALL RIGHT...

I DON'T...

WHAT THE... THEY'RE ALL... SMASHED TO BITS...

TOMIE.

OH!

MR. MORI!

...

HE'S USUALLY SO QUIET! IT'S LIKE HE TURNED INTO SOMEONE ELSE...HE TRIED TO CUT ME TO PIECES!! YOU CAME JUST IN TIME!!

MR. MORI... I WAS SO SCARED... MR. IWATA... HE SMASHED ALL THE SCULPTURES!

THEN HE WENT AND BROKE THEM ALL!! WAAHH... WHAT DO I DO WITH MYSELF NOW?

MR. IWATA MADE SO MANY SCULPTURES OF ME! THEY WERE SO PERFECT!! I THOUGHT AT LAST MY BEAUTY WOULD BE ETERNAL...

DON'T BE SAD...I'LL MAKE YOUR WISH COME TRUE. LET ME PAINT YOU AGAIN. THIS TIME, I'LL BE SURE TO GET IT RIGHT...

TOMIE ...

I'M SO, SO HAPPY...

AHH... MR. MORI!!

OF COURSE I DO!

REALLY? MR. MORI... YOU MEAN IT?

THIS IS HOW TOMIE CAME BACK TO ME.

THE JOY I FELT THEN... THE ELATION... JUST THE MEMORY OF IT MAKES ME SHIVER.

HUFF

HUFF

SHIT SHIT

THAT WASN'T THE FIRST TIME.

YOU KNOW WHAT, MR. MORI ...?

YOU'RE BEAUTI-FUL.

WHY ARE YOU SO BEAUTIFUL?

TOMIE ...

THAT A MAN HAS TRIED TO KILL ME.

WHA... WHAT WASN'T THE FIRST WHAT?

WHAT WASN'T ...?

TAK

THEY ALL WANT TO DO IT, AND THEY ALL WANT TO CARVE ME INTO LITTLE PIECES.

IT ALWAYS HAPPENS. WHENEVER A MAN FALLS FOR ME, HE LASHES OUT AND TRIES TO TAKE MY LIFE.

THAT'S IT!

STRANGE, ISN'T IT?

AT LAST, I'VE CAPTURED IT. THIS... IS YOUR BEAUTY.

A PERFECT LIKENESS.

THIS IS MY MASTER-PIECE!

HERE, SEE IT!

BUT WHY? IT'S SUCH A BEAUTIFUL PORTRAIT ...

W- WHAT?!

WHAT IS THIS?

IT'S HORRIBLE! IT'S THE WORST! YOU'RE THE WORST PAINTER IN THE WORLD!!

WHAT IS THAT?!

THWAP

STOP IT!

DON'T YOU MOCK ME! ARE YOU CALLING ME A MONSTER?!

TOKK

NO, THAT'S NOT...HERE. PLEASE, LOOK MORE CLOSELY.

TOMIE!! WHAT'S... SO... FUNNY... TOMIE?!

HA HA HA HA HA HA!

BUT WHY? TELL ME, WHAT'S SO WRONG WITH IT?

HMH... HEH HEH...

HA... HURK... GCCCK...

AH HA HA HA!

WHY ARE YOU LAUGH-ING?

CHOK

KOH

AND THAT'S HOW I CAME TO KILL HER.

WHAT DID I DO TO HER BODY? NOT MUCH OF A QUESTION, IS IT...

FOR WHAT SEEMED LIKE AN ETERNITY I SAT IN A DAZE AND STARED AT WHAT HAD BECOME OF HER.

WHY DID THIS HAPPEN?

THEN, AFTER MAYBE FOUR DAYS...

SLOPP SLIRK SLORP

SHLURP SKWIP SLURGE

GJA!

GAK!

GWAH!

GAH!

EVEN AS I SPEAK, HER FLESH MULTIPLIES BEFORE ME...HER TISSUES ARE GROWING BEFORE MY VERY EYES! WHAT A CONSTITUTION! WHAT A HORRIBLE CONSTITUTION! EACH PIECE, I HAVE NO DOUBT, WILL GROW INTO HER VERY IMAGE.

THEN—AHH, PLEASE LISTEN— THEN EACH PIECE OF HER BODY...BEGAN TO GROW...

I KNOW...I AM GRATEFUL I WON'T SEE THE END. WITH EVERY PASSING DAY, I GROW THINNER. I CAN NO LONGER EVEN WALK. ALL I CAN DO IS SIT... AND WAIT...AND PRAY FOR MY DEATH. AHH... TOMIE...TOMIE...

PAINTER / END

ASSASSINS
暗
あん
殺
さつ

HUFF HUFF

THAT WOMAN... DOESN'T BELONG IN THIS WORLD.

GET HER...

GET RID OF HER...

DIE!!

HWUH... HUFF...

SWISH!

CHURK

NGAHH!

CHURF

STOMP

HEY! STOP!

HEY, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

HRN!

WE NEED AN AMBULANCE, NOW.

THIS IS BAD.

OH NO... ARE YOU OKAY?!

YOUR PLACE. TAKE ME... HOME...

DON'T ...

KLUCH

BUT I... WAIT...

WHAT ?!

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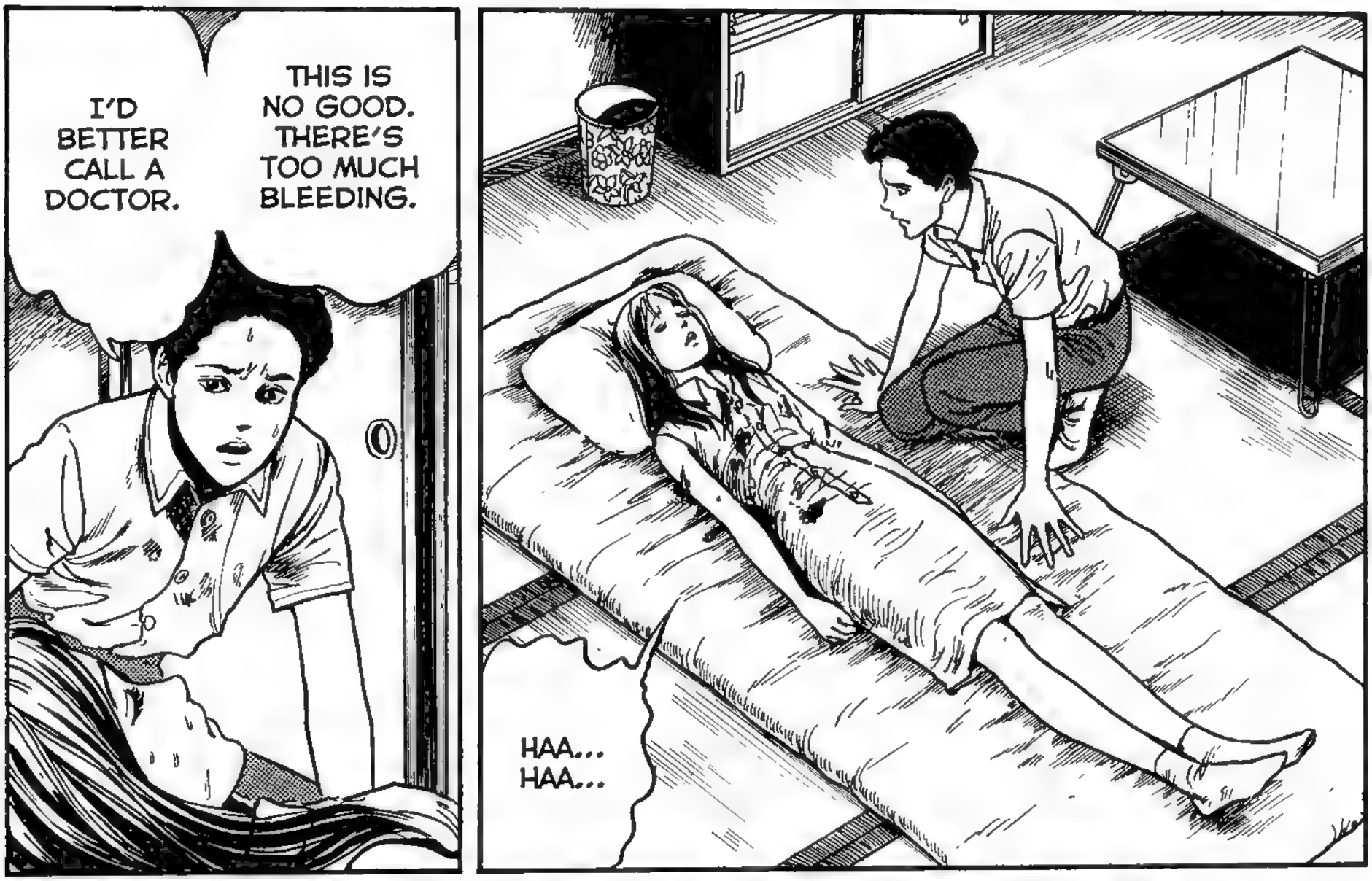
APARTMENTS KODAKASO


I'D BETTER CALL A DOCTOR.
THIS IS NO GOOD. THERE'S TOO MUCH BLEEDING.
HAA... HAA...

SOMEONE... AN ASSASSIN... AFTER ME...
HAA... HAA... YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE... PROMISE ME... THERE'S...

BUT I... I KNOW WHO SENT HIM...

NO... NEVER MET HIM.

THAT GUY, YOU MEAN? DO YOU KNOW HIM?

AN ASSASSIN? WHAT...

IT'S JUST, SOMEONE'S JEALOUS... VERY JEALOUS...

NO...

YOU DIDN'T PISS OFF SOME MOB GUYS, DID YOU?

WHO? WHAT'RE YOU MIXED UP IN?

I MUST NEVER BE FOUND.

WHEN I DIE... BURY ME SOMEWHERE SECLUDED.

WHAT IS IT?

TETSUO, RIGHT? DO ME A FAVOR... WILL YOU?

I'LL FIX YOU UP, OKAY?

HEY, YOU WON'T DIE...

PLEASE... PROMISE ME... SOMEWHERE... SECLUDED...

DON'T BURN ME... JUST BURY ME... JUST LIKE THIS... LIKE... I AM...

AND PROMISE ...

WHY DID I CARRY OUT HER LAST WISHES? I HAVE NO IDEA.

THUPP

THUPP

THUPP

CHUFF

THPP

PHEW
...

PUP PUP

GRURK!

TETSUO!! OUT! GET ME OUT OF HERE!

GRAAH!

...

H-HANG ON!! JUST A SEC!

NGARR!

GRUH!

BUT...

HEY !!

CHAFF

CHAFF

MUST BE THE STRESS ...

OKAY. UM...

...

THE CHEST?

THE CHEST! NOT THE HEAD, THE CHEST!!

NO! TETSUO!

THAT... WASN'T THERE EARLIER.

WHAT THE...

WHA...

CAN'T YOU JUST DO AS I SAY?!

MOVE IT!

WHAT THE HELL...? WHEN DID IT...? AND IT CAN TALK...?

A CONJOINED TWIN? THIS IS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A HORROR STORY.

HEY, JUST CARVE ME OUT OF THIS WOMAN! FAST!

CHUK CHUK

CHUK

HURTS! IT HURTS!!

GAHHH !!

SLURK

CHUK CHUK

CRACK

HUFF

HUFF

METALLORD.

HUFF

HUFF

...THE CORPSE. BURN IT TO CINDERS.

BUT WAIT. BEFORE WE DO...

OKAY, TETSUO. WE CAN GO NOW. LET'S GO TO YOUR PLACE.

I'M TELLING YOU, INCINERATE IT.

OH, PLEASE. WHICH FACE ARE YOU GOING TO LISTEN TO?

I PROMISED THAT I WOULDN'T.

BURN IT?! BUT...

YOU'LL REGRET THIS...

ANYWAY, I DON'T WANT TO START A WILDFIRE.

BUT I... I DON'T SMOKE. GOT NO LIGHTER.

YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO BURN HER, DO YOU?

ARGH. YOU SPINE-LESS WEENIE.

NOW!

...

NOT THE DESK! WHAT ARE YOU, STUPID? IT'S TOO HARD!

FIND ME A CUSHION! SOMETHING COMFY!

202

TETSUO KUSUNOKI

KODAKASO APARTMENTS

THAT'S MUCH BETTER...

TEE HEE HEE.

...

YOU GREW OUT OF... HER WOUNDS. AND...

...AND WHY DO YOU LOOK LIKE HER?

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?

FIX ME SOME-THING.

LET'S CHANGE THE SUBJECT. I'M STARVING.

WHO THE HELL...

YOU'VE EVEN GOT THE SAME MOLE.

HOW SHOULD I KNOW?

SIZZLE

SIZZLE

TAK

WHAT IS THAT, DOG FOOD? I CAN'T EAT THAT!

PTU!

MRCH MRCH MRCH

WHERE'S YOUR CAVIAR?! YOUR FOIE GRAS?!

GIVE ME SOME REAL FOOD!!

I'VE GOT TO GET OUT. TAKE ME TO TOWN!

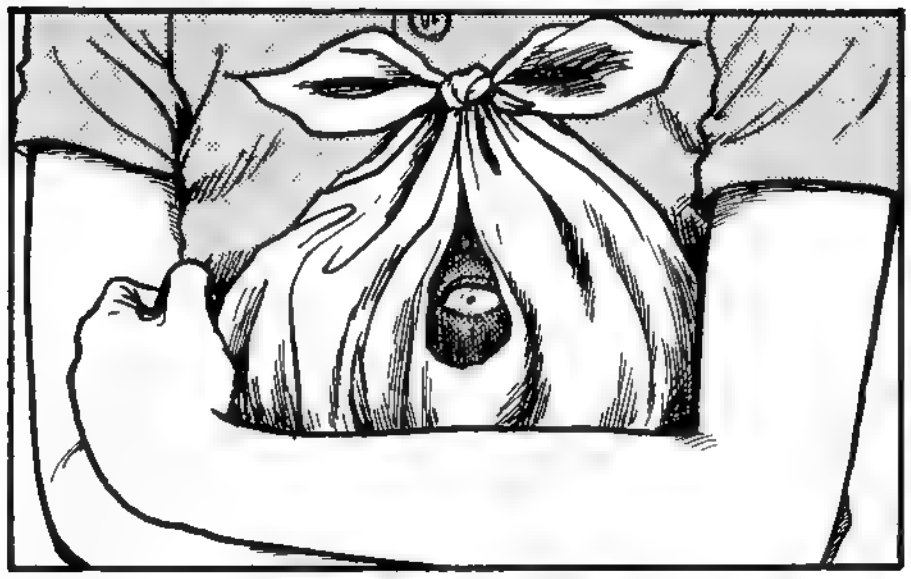
ARRGH... I'M GOING NUTS! IT'S SO DEPRESSING IN HERE.

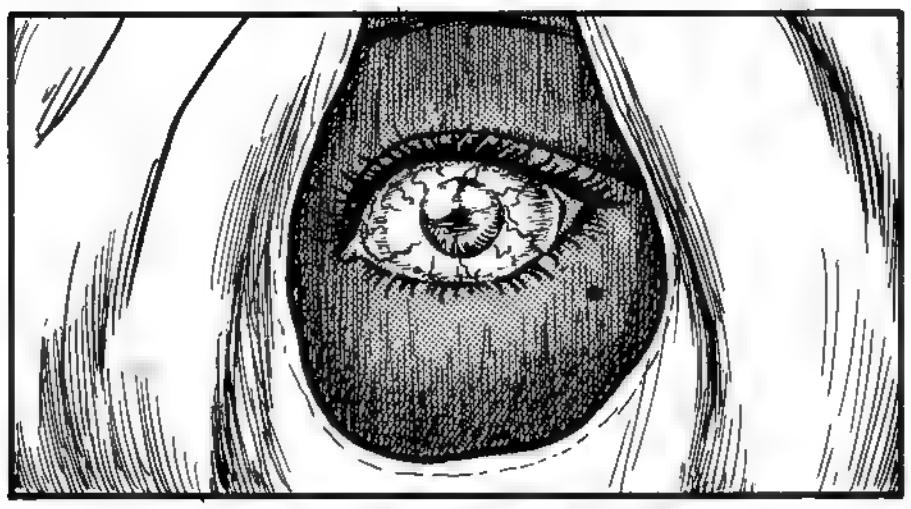
HMPH. WHAT GOOD ARE YOU?

THAT'S OUT OF MY RANGE.

FINE, THEN. I DON'T HAVE TO EAT.

CITY





YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE A NECK. WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH IT, ANYWAY?
I TOLD YOU I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY.

HEY... TAKE ME TO A JEWELRY STORE. I'M DYING FOR A NECKLACE.

HSST... PIPE DOWN...

MURMUR

OH, SHUT UP!

IT DOESN'T MATTER. JUST HEAD TO A JEWELER'S. NOW!!

NO, WAIT. SPANISH! I WANT SPANISH!

OPEN

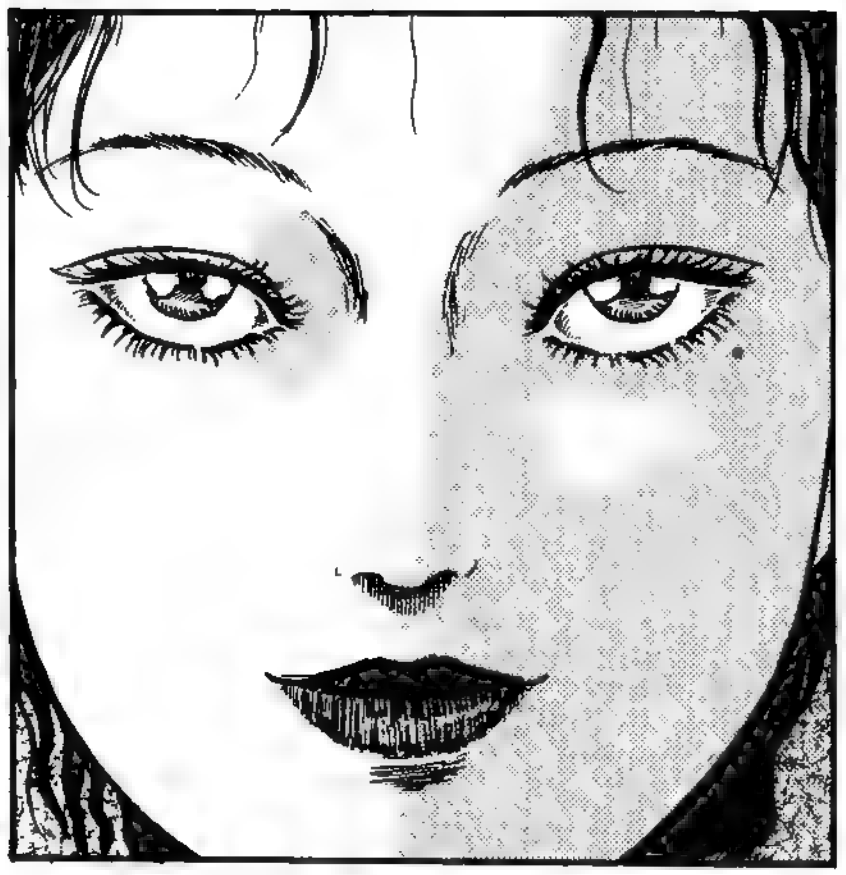
AND THEN TO A FRENCH RESTAURANT. A GOOD ONE!

MURMUR

ACTUALLY, TAKE ME TO AN ANTIQUE STORE.

HANG ON, FORGET THE JEWELER'S.

HUH?



AAAH!!!

THE WOMAN YOU BURIED! THE WENCH YOU COULDN'T BURN!!

WHAT BITCH? WHAT'RE YOU ON ABOUT NOW?

I SAID KILL HER!!

KILL HER... KILL THE BITCH!

NOT ANY-MORE!!

BUT SHE'S... ALREADY DEAD.

KILL HER?

I CAN TELL. IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, HOW ABOUT YOU GO CHECK.

THE BITCH IS BACK.

AAAGH! WHAT DID I TELL YOU? IF YOU'D JUST CREMATED HER RIGHT THEN AND THERE, THIS NEVER WOULD HAVE HAPPENED!

BUT IT'S TOO LATE NOW.

OH NO.

KSSH

SHHK

CHUFF CHUFF

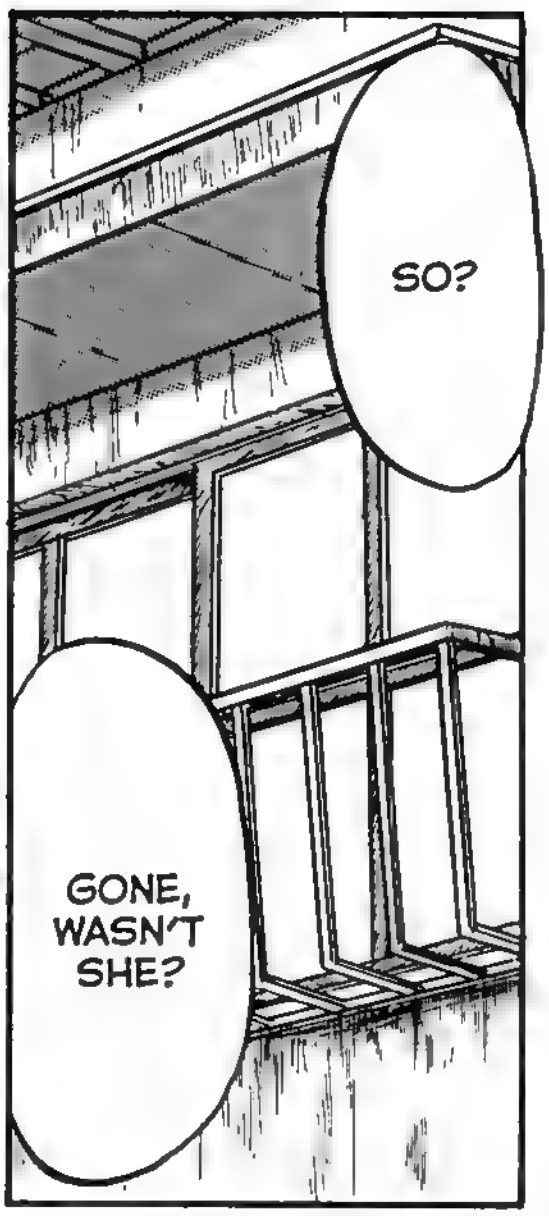
IT CAN'T BE.

NO. NO, IT'S... SOMEONE MUST'VE DUG HER OUT...

COULD SHE HAVE RISEN?

SHE'S JUST NOT HERE!!

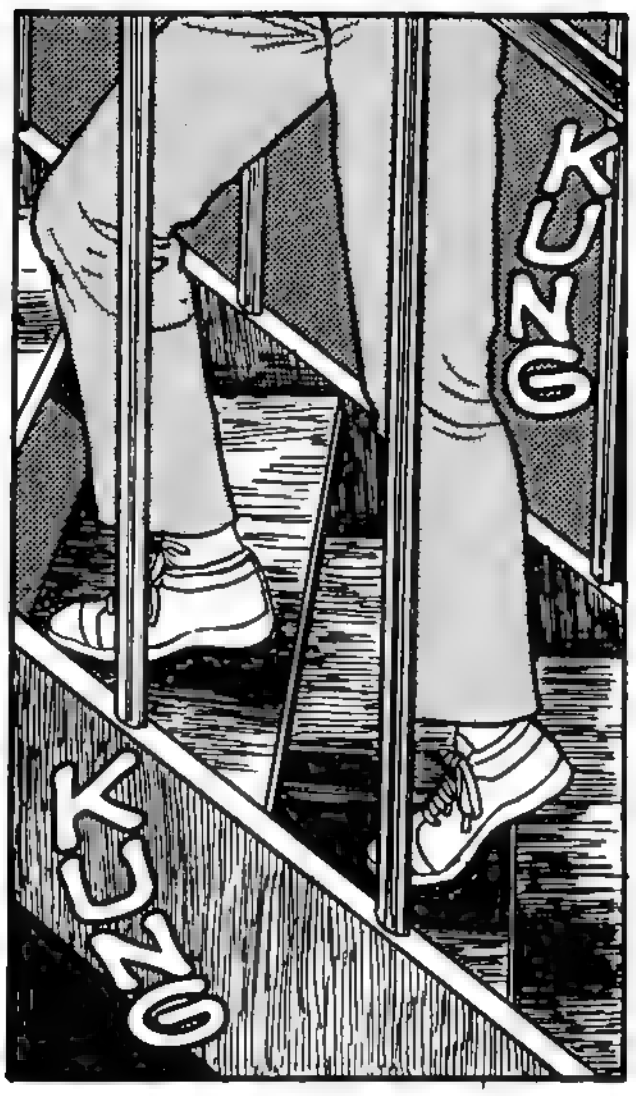
GONE ...


SO?
GONE, WASN'T SHE?

MY GOD... IT'S GETTING BIGGER BY THE MINUTE.

That night.

202


KUZO

MUH

?!

CHAASH

WC

KNUNK

WHO THE... LOOK, I DON'T HAVE ANY-THING!

WHAT WOMAN?!

WOMAN ...?

SHE MUST BE HERE.

GIVE ME THE WOMAN.

TUMP

TUMP

URK...

NO USE HIDING HER. I KNOW SHE'S HERE.

COME ON OUT!

COME OUT, COME OUT, WHER-EVER YOU ARE...

I'LL KILL HER! BURN HER!

AW, DAMN. THAT'S NOT IT. WHERE COULD SHE BE?

SHUNK

HOW ABOUT THE CLOSET!

TUP

COME OUT!

HEH HEH.

FWUP

FLAM

THERE'S NO USE HIDING!

FRIDAY

...

HMM?

TETSUO! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! TACKLE HIM OR SOMETHING!!

A VOICE... BUT NO BODY...

!

WOOSH

HURRY UP, ALREADY! GET HIM!!

BAFF

GLOM

SHWIP

KEEP OUT OF THIS!

UNNGH. LEGGO! I GOTTA KILL HER. MUST KILL...

WH

AM

WHO'S TOMIE?

TOMIE?

I'M JUST FOLLOWING ORDERS. I FAIL THIS, AND TOMIE WILL HATE ME FOREVER.

LET GO... AW, COME ON! PLEASE, LEMME GO! IF I DON'T BURN THAT WITCH, I'M RUINED.

SHE SAID SOME EVIL SKANK DUPED HER AND LEFT HER THERE. SHE WAS ALL MESSED UP. LIKE, ALL DIRTY.

SHE WAS SITTING BY THE ROAD UP IN THE MOUNTAIN. I SPOKE TO HER. SHE SMILED BACK. SHE LOOKED SO HAPPY TO SEE ME.

TOMIE ...

SHE'S A GIRL. A BEAUTIFUL GIRL. I JUST MET HER YESTERDAY.

SO HERE I AM. THAT BITCH IS HERE TOO. THE WHORE WHO TORTURED TOMIE. AND I'VE COME TO KILL HER.

IT WAS LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT. ONE LOOK, AND I KNEW... I'D DO ANYTHING FOR HER.

IF YOU'D BURNED HER WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE, YOU COULD HAVE AVOIDED ALL THIS.

TETSUO, REMEMBER THE WENCH YOU BURIED? SEE WHAT HAPPENS? SHE'S BACK. AND NOW SHE WANTS TO KILL ME.

EVIL WITCH? DON'T BE ABSURD... WHO'S BEING EVIL NOW?

SO COME ON... GIVE 'ER TO ME. PLEASE? YOU KNOW, YOU'RE HIDING AN EVIL WITCH.

THE VOICE... WHERE'S IT COMING FROM?

WHERE ... WHERE IS SHE ...?

WOOO

AND... AND IN SUCH A SMALL WASTE-BASKET...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

...TOMIE, IT'S YOU...

IT'S ...

I MEAN, THE HUSSY WHO SENT YOU TO KILL ME?

HEY... YOU... WHERE'S THAT BEAUTIFUL GIRL YOU MENTIONED JUST NOW?

BUT... WHY ARE YOU HERE? AND IN...THERE?

I'M HERE TO KILL THE WITCH WHO TORTURED YOU.

TOMIE, WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M NOT HERE TO KILL YOU. IT'S THAT WOMAN...

TETSUO! GET RID OF THIS BOZO!! FAST!

ARRGH! HOW CLUELESS CAN YOU GET? FINE!

I CAN'T... JUST...

B- BUT...

JUST DO IT, ALREADY! USE THE KNIFE!

I'M TELLING YOU, FINISH HIM OFF.

GET RID OF?

AAAA!

CHIK

NOW!

GLW

PP

404

I'M LOOKING FOR HER RIGHT NOW.

AFTER THAT, I WAS ORDERED TO... ASSASSINATE TOMIE.

YOU GREW OUT OF HER BODY. I SHOULD THINK YOU'D BE LIKE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER.

WHY DO YOU TRY TO KILL EACH OTHER?

I ASKED THE TWIN BEFORE I LEFT THE APARTMENT...

ALL THE OTHERS ARE PRETENDERS— LIKE THE TOMIE WHO TRIED TO TAKE MY LIFE...

...AND THE TOMIE WHO CAME BEFORE HER.

NEVER MIND THAT. IT DOESN'T MATTER. ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT I AM TOMIE. AND ONE OF ME IS ENOUGH.

AND... EACH TRYING TO WIPE OUT ALL THE REST.

HOW MANY TOMIES ARE THERE?

I'M LOSING MY MIND.

URH.

IT'S... TOMIE.

WELL... MAYBE I'M COMING AT THIS ALL BACKWARD.

TEP TEP

HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO TELL?

BUT WAIT... IS THAT THE RIGHT ONE?

HEY, IT'S ME. DO YOU REMEMBER ME?

TOMIE...

TETSUO, RIGHT?

OH...

SHE DOESN'T KNOW... THAT I'M AN ASSASSIN.

SHE FOLLOWED, INNOCENT AS A LAMB.

I FIGURED THAT, AT THE RIGHT MOMENT, I'D KILL HER. BURN HER!

SO I LED HER DOWN A DESERTED ALLEY.

DESPITE EVERY-THING, YOU SAVED MY LIFE.

I'M REALLY GLAD I RAN INTO YOU.

YEAH ?

YOU KNOW, TETSUO.

...IT REALLY WAS DELICIOUS. YOU'RE A GOOD COOK.

IF YOU HADN'T HELPED ME, I'D BE JUST ANOTHER LOST SHADE BY NOW...

YOU DRESSED MY WOUNDS AND COOKED ME DINNER...

I TREA-SURE IT.

SEE HERE? I'VE STILL GOT THAT NECKLACE YOU BOUGHT ME.

WE DINED ON FINE EUROPEAN CUISINE...

WHEN I GOT BETTER, YOU TOOK ME SO MANY PLACES... SHOPPING FOR JEWELRY... ANTIQUES...

WAIT, WHAT ...?

WHA ...?

WE HAD SO MUCH FUN TOGETHER.

THOSE FEW DAYS ARE SOME OF MY FONDEST MEMORIES.

I CHERISH THE TIME WE SPENT TOGETHER.

WHAT MADE ME THE HAPPIEST IS HOW YOU KEPT ON PROTECTING ME. WHEN THAT BURGLAR BROKE IN, AND YOU STOOD UP TO HIM...

...I'D NEVER FELT SO PLEASED BEFORE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

HEY...

WHAT? TETSUO... SLOW DOWN. I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

AND THEN... YOUR CHEST...

YOU WERE DEAD... I KNOW, I BURIED YOU!

THERE WAS THIS HORRIBLE PARASITE ...THIS DUPLI-CATE...

THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOU DIED, REMEMBER ?

H-HOLD ON... YOU SAY I SAVED YOUR LIFE?

YOU WERE DEAD!

IT WASN'T YOU... IT WAS HER!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

TETSUO... TELL ME, WHAT'S WRONG?

AND... SHE CALLED IT DOG FOOD.

I NEVER COOKED FOR YOU. IT WAS YOUR TWIN.

SHE DEMANDED I TAKE HER TO ALL THESE PLACES— THE JEWELRY STORE, THE FRENCH RESTAURANT...

COME ON. RE-MEMBER! PLEASE TRY...

I'VE BEEN HERE... I'VE ALWAYS BEEN HERE. YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU? TETSUO... YOU REALLY DON'T REMEMBER OUR TIME TOGETHER?

DO YOU REALLY THINK SOME-THING LIKE THAT COULD HAPPEN?

IT'S ALL IN YOUR MIND.

EVEN NOW HER LIMBS ARE GROWING... SHE'S STILL DEVELOPING...

NO, IT'S NOT A DREAM... THERE WAS A DOUBLE. SHE GREW OUT OF YOUR CORPSE AND SPOKE TO ME.

DESTROY THE PHAN-TOM THAT'S CONTROL-LING YOU.

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO.

YOU MUST GET RID OF THIS TWIN OF MINE.

YES! YOU'VE BEEN TAKEN IN BY A PHANTOM. AND IT'S EATING AWAY AT YOU, I CAN SEE IT.

PHANTOM... WAS IT ALL JUST A PHANTOM ...?

YOU NEED TO CONFRONT YOUR DEMON, OR YOU'LL JUST GO MAD.

HAPPY... YOU AND ME...

THEN WE CAN BE HAPPY TOGETHER.

NOW, LISTEN. GO BACK TO YOUR APARTMENT AND SNUFF OUT THIS DEMON.

ASSASSINS / END

もうはつ

毛髪

HAIR

SPOP

OUT OF CURIOS-ITY, I OPENED IT.

...

IN MY FATHER'S STUDY, I FOUND A SMALL WOODEN BOX.

I WAS LOOKING TO BORROW A PEN WHEN I SAW IT, SECRETED DEEP INSIDE A DESK DRAWER.

NESTLED INSIDE WERE LOCKS OF HAIR. THEIR BEAUTY WAS OUT OF THIS WORLD.

NO... AND IT'S NOT MY MOM'S.

WHOA, THAT'S SOME GORGEOUS HAIR! CHIE... THAT'S NOT YOURS, IS IT?

SERIOUSLY, IT'S GOTTA BELONG TO SOMEONE. IF NOT YOU OR YOUR MOM, WHO ELSE?

COULD BE AN OLD GIRLFRIEND... THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHY HE KEPT IT.

I ADMIT I'VE THOUGHT OF IT, AND IT'S BEEN BUGGING ME.

OH, MIKI. CUT THAT OUT.

MAYBE YOUR POP'S GOT A WOMAN.

...

CAN I TOUCH IT?

SURE.

WITH HAIR LIKE THIS, SHE MUST'VE BEEN A KNOCKOUT.

WHAT WAS SHE LIKE?

I WONDER...

IT SOON BECAME A RITUAL. EVERY DAY AFTER SCHOOL, I WOULD SIT AND LOOK AT THE HAIR.

COULD THEY HAVE BEEN LOVERS? NAH... NOT MY DAD...

...OR MAYBE THIS?

SOME-THING LIKE THIS?

TUNK

DO NOT DISTURB STUDYING

I SHOULD JUST GO AND ASK DAD...

OH, HOLD ON... IT COULD BE GRANDMA'S, BACK FROM HER YOUNGER DAYS.

KNCK

KRUDGE

K-CHAC
K-CHNK

WHO TOOK IT? MY WIFE? MY DAUGHTER...?

NOT HERE... IT'S GONE...

IT'S GONE!

GONE ...

DO NOT DISTURB STUDYING

K-CHAK

WHAT IS IT, DAD?

WHA...

CHIE...

CHIE, IT'S ME. YOUR FATHER.

WUH?!

CHIE!

OH... OKAY.

WHAT? NO... NOT REALLY... WHY?

BEAR

IT'S... NOTHING.

HAVE YOU BEEN IN MY STUDY RECENTLY?

THE HAIR MUST REALLY BE PRECIOUS TO HIM.

PRECIOUS... AND SECRET.

WELL, I GUESS HE'S NOTICED.

B-TUM

H-HEY, TAMIKO ...

YES? WHAT IS IT?

KITCHEN

DAD SEEMED TO BLAME MOM FOR THE DISAPPEARANCE.

?

IT'S NOTHING.

N- NO...

THE HAIR WAS GETTING LONGER.

THEN, LATER...

I NOTICED SOME-THING ODD.

GROW-
ING?!
LIKE,
ALIVE?!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT KIND OF HAIR IS THIS?

THERE'S NO MISTAKE. IT'S GROWING.

...

HOW COME ...?

THOUGH JUST ABOUT ANYTHING WOULD BEAT MY MOP.

STILL, IT'S PRETTY. I'D KILL FOR HAIR LIKE THIS.

YEAH, IT'S... STARTING TO CREEP ME OUT.

HEY, YOU'RE RIGHT... IT WASN'T THAT LONG BEFORE.

UM.

TWING

TELL ME ABOUT IT.

I THINK I'M UNDER-WHELMED.

HEY. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

IT'S STUCK TO MY HEAD SOME-HOW!!

I CAN'T GET IT OFF ME! THE HAIR!

MIKI, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

WHAAAT THE...?!

HEY, WHOA...

TONG TONG

THERE!

HEY! STOP IT!

YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME?! THEN YOU TRY IT!

MIKI... ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

MY GOD, THIS IS JUST GETTING CREEPIER.

OH NO. YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S LIKE SUPER GLUE.

AH.

TWLING

OW WOW OWWW!

AAGH! THE FRIGGIN' HAIR WON'T COME OFF!

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING?! MIKI, WHAT DID YOU DO?!

NO! I DON'T WANT A STRANGE HAIR ON ME!!

YOU KNOW, YOU COULD JUST LEAVE IT, CHIE. IT IS QUITE BEAUTIFUL, AS HAIRS GO.

W... WHAT?

CHIE... CAN I HANG ON TO THE BOX OVER SUMMER BREAK?

IT'S... JUST AN IDEA I'VE GOT.

BUT WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH IT?

OH... YEAH. SCHOOL'S OUT TOMORROW, ISN'T IT. AND... DAD'S STILL ON THE HUNT. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT. BETTER THAT THAN BURYING IT IN MY ROOM SOMEWHERE.

...

OKAY.

THANKS, CHIE. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

Several weeks later...

SZRRRR...

OH...

THAT STRANGE WOMAN... I JUST CLOSED MY EYES FOR A MOMENT.

WHAT... WAS THAT?

FWOF

SHE WAS STUNNING. THAT SKIN... IT WAS... TRANSPARENT, ALMOST. THE SHARP SLANT TO THE EYES, THE MOLE... AND THE HAIR...

IT'S NO GOOD... I CAN'T BRING HER BACK...

CHIE, YOUR FRIEND'S ON THE PHONE.

BUT...

WHY THE VISION? WHY ME?

THE HAIR!! GOD, OF COURSE! IT MUST BE HERS...

FOR SOME REASON, I WAS CON-VINCED.

YEAH... UM... CHIE, DO YOU MIND COMING BY? I WANT TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING.

OH, MIKI. HEY, HOW'S THE SUMMER BEEN?

HI, CHIE! IT'S ME, MIKI.

HELLO?

YEAH, I'LL... BE RIGHT THERE. I'VE GOT SOME-THING FOR YOU, TOO.

DO YOU?

THE HAIR HAS GOT TO BE HERS.

YOU KNOW, MIKI, I SAW HER.

CHIE! THANKS FOR COMING. COME ON IN!

AND OF COURSE THERE'S THE HAIR...

HER SKIN IS SO FAIR, IT MIGHT AS WELL BE TRANSPARENT. AND SHE'S GOT THIS MOLE UNDER HER LEFT EYE.

MIKI!

GOR-GEOUS, ISN'T SHE?

HUH?

SHE TOLD ME HER NAME.

HER VOICE WAS CLEAR... CHARMING.

"I AM TOMIE," SHE SAID...

YEAH... I SURE DID. AND I COULD HEAR HER. I GUESS I MIGHT HAVE IMAGINED THAT PART.

YOU KNOW ABOUT HER? DID YOU SEE HER TOO?

HER VOICE, TOO?!

TOMIE ...

WOW.

ABOUT WHAT?

ANYWAY, I HOPE YOU WON'T BE ANGRY.

CHECK IT OUT.

I... CULTIVATED IT.

WHERE DID YOU FIND SO MUCH OF IT?

THAT'S... THE SAME HAIR, RIGHT?

ISN'T IT? AND SEE HOW LIVELY IT IS!

IT'S AMAZING ...

I GOT THIS IDEA TO CUT THE HAIR INTO SHORTER PIECES. I WAS WORRIED YOU MIGHT BE UPSET, BUT I JUST COULDN'T RESIST.

TURNED OUT MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT. BEFORE I KNEW WHAT I HAD, THE BOX WAS OVERFLOWING.

JUST WAIT UNTIL BREAK'S OVER. YOU'LL SEE SOON ENOUGH.

HEH HEH ...

SO NOW WHAT? WHY DO YOU WANT SO MUCH OF IT?

IN TIME I ALSO COULD HEAR HER VOICE. EACH WORD SHE SPOKE WOULD ECHO IN MY MIND.

I SPENT MOST OF THAT SUMMER AT HOME.

TOMIE CAME TO ME MORE AND MORE OFTEN. I SAT IN MY ROOM, DWELLING, TRANSFIXED BY HER BEAUTY. I FELT NO DESIRE TO GO ANYWHERE.

SOMETIMES I WOULD HEAR MY PARENTS ARGUING SOMEWHERE IN THE HOUSE. BUT AS LONG AS I HAD MY VISIONS, NOTHING BOTHERED ME.

EVENTUALLY, SCHOOL RESUMED.

WAS SHE HERE BEFORE?

2B

HEY, WHO'S THAT?

IT WORKED!

TEE HEE HEE...

FOOF

HEY... MORNIN', CHIE.

MIKI ...?

WHAT'S UP WITH HER HAIR, THEN?

WAIT... ISN'T THAT MIKI HATAKEYAMA?

BUT I PREFER IT THIS WAY, YOU KNOW.

YEAH... I DON'T KNOW, EXACTLY. IT ALL FELL OUT, I THINK. MAYBE TOMIE'S HAIR BECAME DOMINANT.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR OWN HAIR? WHERE'D IT GO?

WHAT, YOU JUST PLANTED IT ON YOUR OWN HEAD?

IT WASN'T THAT EASY, BUT— YEAH, MORE OR LESS.

YOU KNOW, CHIE, THERE'S PLENTY MORE. WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A WHIRL?

WELL, YOU SURE DON'T LACK FOR BRAVADO.

DESCRIPTIONS
ELEGANT
PURE

...

LET'S SEE ...

...AS YOU CAN SEE ON PAGE 120. CAN I HAVE A VOLUNTEER?

HOW CAN I CON-CENTRATE LIKE THIS?

OH NO. OF ALL THE MOMENTS ...

SURE...

...

YOU READ FOR US.

HATAKE-YAMA.

WHERE'S YOUR TEXT-BOOK?

IS THERE A PROB-LEM? PAGE 120.

...

YOU'RE JUST AS BEAUTIFUL AS ALWAYS.

OH...

OF COURSE, IT USED TO BE YOURS. HEE HEE HEE...

MURMUR

BUT, YOU KNOW— NOW MY HAIR'S JUST AS LOVELY.

?

DAZZLING, REALLY. TEE HEE HEE.

HATAKE-YAMA!! EXPLAIN YOURSELF!

WHAT ARE YOU JABBERING ?!

DON'T WORRY, I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU...

...TOMIE.

OH, NO. OF COURSE I'M GRATEFUL.

I WONDER WHAT THEY TALK ABOUT...

MURMUR

MURMUR

I GUESS MIKI CAN SPEAK TO HER VISIONS.

I CAN TRY WHEN I GET HOME. MAYBE I SHOULD ...

RIGHT NOW, ALL I CAN DO IS LISTEN.

I'M SO JEALOUS. I WISH I COULD SPEAK TO HER TOO.

WELL, MAYBE I'LL GET TO TALK TO HER SOON.

MIKI, IT SURE IS SILKY. HOW'D YOU MANAGE IT? COME ON, LET US IN ON IT.

WANNA HEAR?

NAH, I'VE GOT MY OWN SPECIAL TECHNIQUE.

WELL, YEAH! TELL US!

DON'T TELL ME IT'S A WIG?

WAS IT A RE-VERSE PERM? THAT HIGH-TECH KIND?

NOW, THE WAY IT GROWS IS...

DON'T SEE WHY NOT. HERE, YOU JUST TAKE SOME OF THIS AND GROW IT. WHEN YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH, YOU STICK IT ON YOUR HEAD.

DO NOT DISTURB STUDYING

I CAN'T UNDER-STAND IT ANY-MORE!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY, JUST SAY IT!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, ANYWAY?! STOP LEERING AT ME LIKE THAT!

AH, GORGEOUS, GORGEOUS TOMIE...

TOMIE...

WON'T YOU CHAT WITH ME, TOMIE?

JUST... GIVE *IT* BACK TO ME.

ER... ALL RIGHT... SINCE YOU ASKED.

ITS WAVES, SO DELICATE... ITS LUSTER, LIKE THE FINEST PEARLS. THERE ARE NO WORDS FOR SUCH BEAUTY.

IT'S... VERY NICE HAIR. IT'S TOMIE'S HAIR...

AND YOU TOOK IT FROM ME. I KNOW IT.

THE HAIR IN THE WOODEN BOX YOU STOLE FROM MY DESK!!

GIVE WHAT BACK?!

THE WHAT?!

THE HAIR IS MY MEMENTO OF HER.

TOMIE IS... THE GREATEST LOVE OF MY LIFE.

TELL ME! WHO IS TOMIE?!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND A WORD OF THIS! TO START WITH, WHO'S TOMIE?

IF YOU ARE, GET READY FAST.

CHIE! I'M GOING TO GRANDMA'S. YOU COMING?

DO NOT DISTURB STUDYING

THAT'S IT. THIS IS TOO MUCH.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU!

MY GOD... YOU'RE SICK!

EVEN MY OWN DAUGHTER MOCKS ME!!

URRNG... DON'T BOTHER ME... NOT COMING... I'M TRYING TO TALK TO TOMIE...

CHIE, COME ON!

AS FOR ME...

MY MOM LEFT THE CONDO THAT NIGHT.

YOU KNOW HER?

W-WHAT?!

DING DOONG
DING DOONG
K-
CHAK
THE DOOR WASN'T LOCKED... SORRY FOR JUST BARGING IN LIKE THIS.
MIKI.
REEK
O NOT
ISTURB
UDYING

MIKI... WHY CAN'T I TALK TO TOMIE? I TRY AND I TRY... WHY IS IT YOU GET HER ATTENTION, AND I'M LEFT CLUTCHING AT STRAWS?

WHATEVER I DO... SHE JUST WON'T RESPOND TO ME.

I'VE BEEN GETTING WORRIED.

CHIE, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN IN SCHOOL FOR A WEEK. ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

WELL, YEAH. HERE, I BROUGHT YOU WHAT'S LEFT. IT'S ALL YOURS.

YOU MEAN, ALL I NEED IS MORE HAIR? THEN I CAN TALK TO HER?

IT'S A QUESTION OF QUANTITY. YOU'VE ONLY THE ONE HAIR, WHILE I'VE LOST COUNT OF HOW MANY I'VE PLANTED.

OH... SO THAT'S WHY YOU'VE BEEN OUT OF SCHOOL, CHIE? WHAT AN OLD SILLY YOU ARE. THE SOLUTION'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU.

JUST PLANT IT ALL ON YOUR HEAD. IT'S SIMPLE.

I QUIT MY JOB, TOO! HEE HEE HEE.

YOUR DAD'S BEEN DRINKING AGAIN—IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY!

HERE COMES DADDY!

KNOCKLE KNOCK!

HOYEE... *BURP* CHIEEE!!

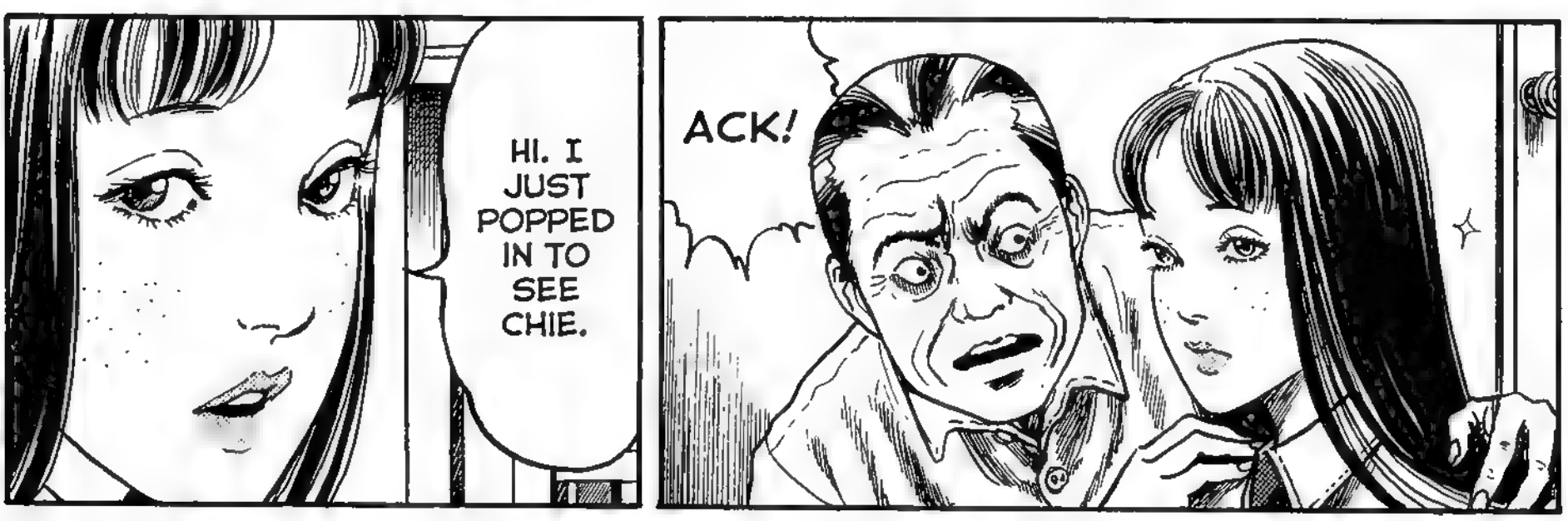
I GOT YOU SUSHI.

OH CHIE, WHERE AAARE YOU?

SUH...

OH... TOMIE.

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!!
TOMIE! YOU'RE ALIVE!


HI. I JUST POPPED IN TO SEE CHIE.
ACK!

STICK AROUND!
HEY...
EXCUSE ME.
BUT... THE HAIR... IT IS HERS... IT IS...
EEG. I... I TOOK YOU FOR SOME-ONE ELSE...

WAIT... YOU... I WANT TO TALK TO YOU...

WOOSH

WOOSH

C'MON, PLEASE!

WAIT!

CHIE?

CHIE?

IT'S MOM... I'M BACK. ARE YOU HOME?

CHIE...

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?

BEAUTIFUL, BEAUTIFUL TOMIE!!

OH, TOMIE!!

WHAT DO YOU HAVE ON YOUR FACE?

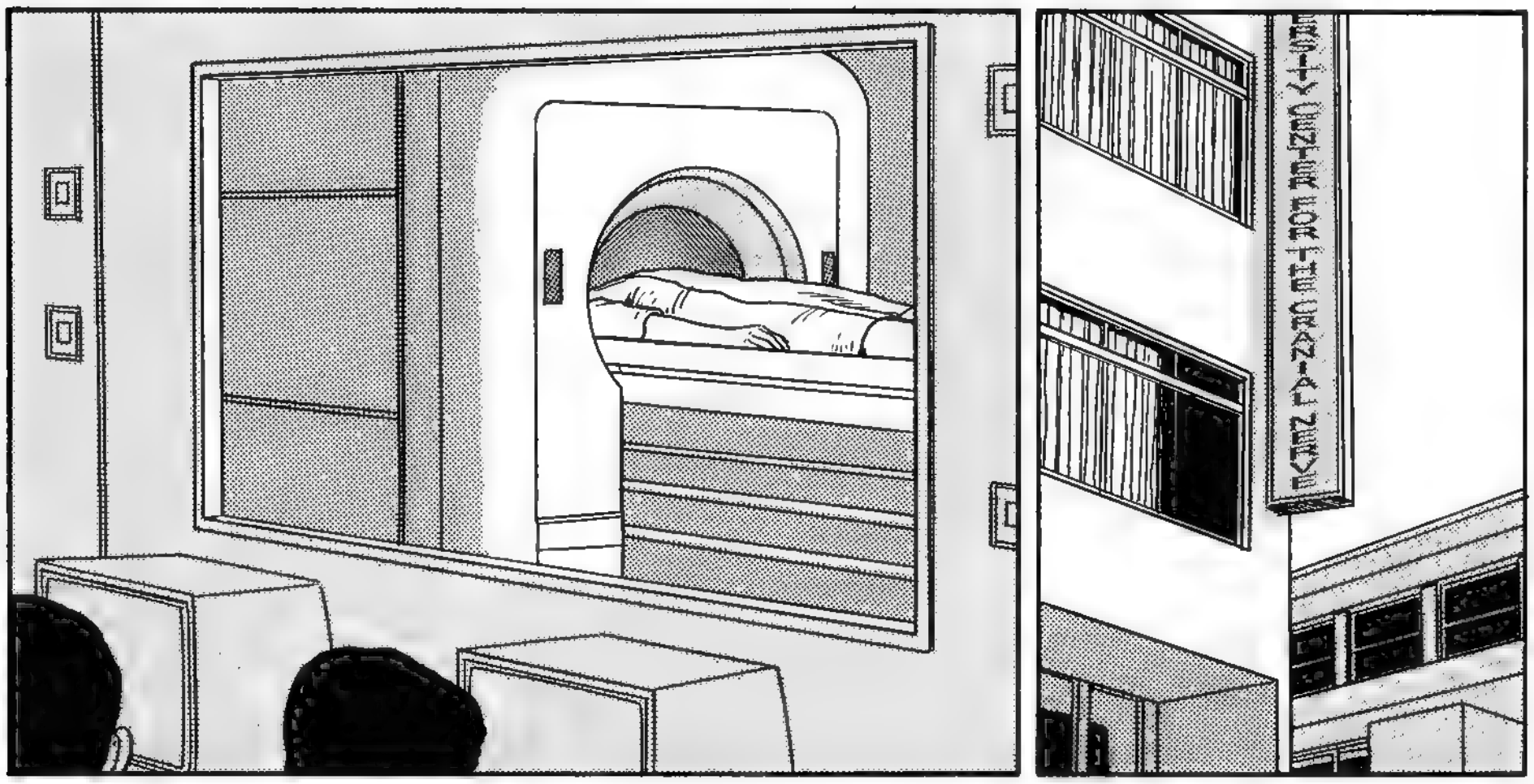
CHIE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

PIP

CHIE? CHIE?! BY GOD, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?

OH HO HO HO HO!

AT LAST! YOU CAN FINALLY HEAR ME! OH TOMIE, I SO LONGED TO TALK TO YOU.



IT APPEARS THAT SOME HAIR FOLLICLES HAVE BECOME EMBEDDED IN HER FACIAL TISSUE. WE'RE STILL SEARCHING FOR A PROBABLE CAUSE.

MEANWHILE, WE REMOVED ALL THE HAIRS. AND I DON'T FORESEE ANY MORE PROBLEMS THERE.

YES, WELL ...

DOCTOR, MY DAUGHTER ...

MMM ...

WE THINK IT'S ANOTHER OF THESE HAIRS.

A FOREIGN BODY ?!

WHEN WE PROBED MORE DEEPLY, THOUGH, WE FOUND A FOREIGN BODY IN HER BRAIN. A SINGLE FIBER, LIKE A THREAD.

INGROWN HAIRS ARE ONE THING, BUT FOR ONE TO PENETRATE THIS DEEPLY... THERE'S NO PRECEDENT. AND UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN, IT'S STILL GROWING.

IT LOOKS LIKE YOUR DAUGHTER'S BRAIN WAS PENETRATED BY AN EXTREMELY LONG HAIR FOLLICLE. IT PIERCED THE CRANIUM AND FOUND ITS WAY INTO HER BRAIN CASE. I CAN'T EVEN CONCEIVE OF HOW.

WE CAN'T JUST YANK IT OUT OF THERE. IT'S WOUND ALL THROUGH HER BRAIN TISSUE.

BUT WE'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT. DON'T WORRY.

WHATEVER THE CASE, WE NEED TO ACT FAST.

DOCTOR... WILL SHE... RECOVER?

IT COULD WELL HAVE STIMULATED HER VISUAL AND AUDITORY CENTERS, TRIGGERING HALLUCINATIONS.

IT'S HERS, ISN'T IT? TOMIE'S?

LOOK... I JUST WANT TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR HAIR.

YOU KNOW TOMIE, DON'T YOU?

YOU CAN TELL ME. COME ON...

SHOULD I TELL HIM, DO YOU MIND?

TOMIE... YOU HEARD HIM, RIGHT?

HEH HEH.

RIGHT. I'LL PASS IT ON.

UH-HUH...

YEAH ...?

ER... OF COURSE... I KNOW.

SHE SAYS YOU'RE A NUI-SANCE.

EVER SINCE WE MET, I'VE BEEN UNABLE TO CONTROL MYSELF.

BUT PLEASE UNDER-STAND HOW I FEEL.

LISTEN... TOMIE DOESN'T WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

THAT'S WHY YOU KILLED HER?

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, YOU KNOW... I DID EVERYTHING FOR HER. I TRIED. BUT IN THE END, SHE... REJECTED ME. LEFT ME WITH NOTHING BUT THIS HOLE. AND THAT'S WHY...

IT WAS JUST A CHANCE ENCOUN-TER, A YEAR AGO. I WAS STRUCK BY HER CHARM...

EH?

SHE WAS THE LOVE OF MY LIFE. SO IF I COULD TALK TO HER...

YEAH! ABSO-LUTELY!

PWURR

WHAA!!

SWWRAAPP

SWWAARUU

...

FWOOFOOF

ZOUHH..

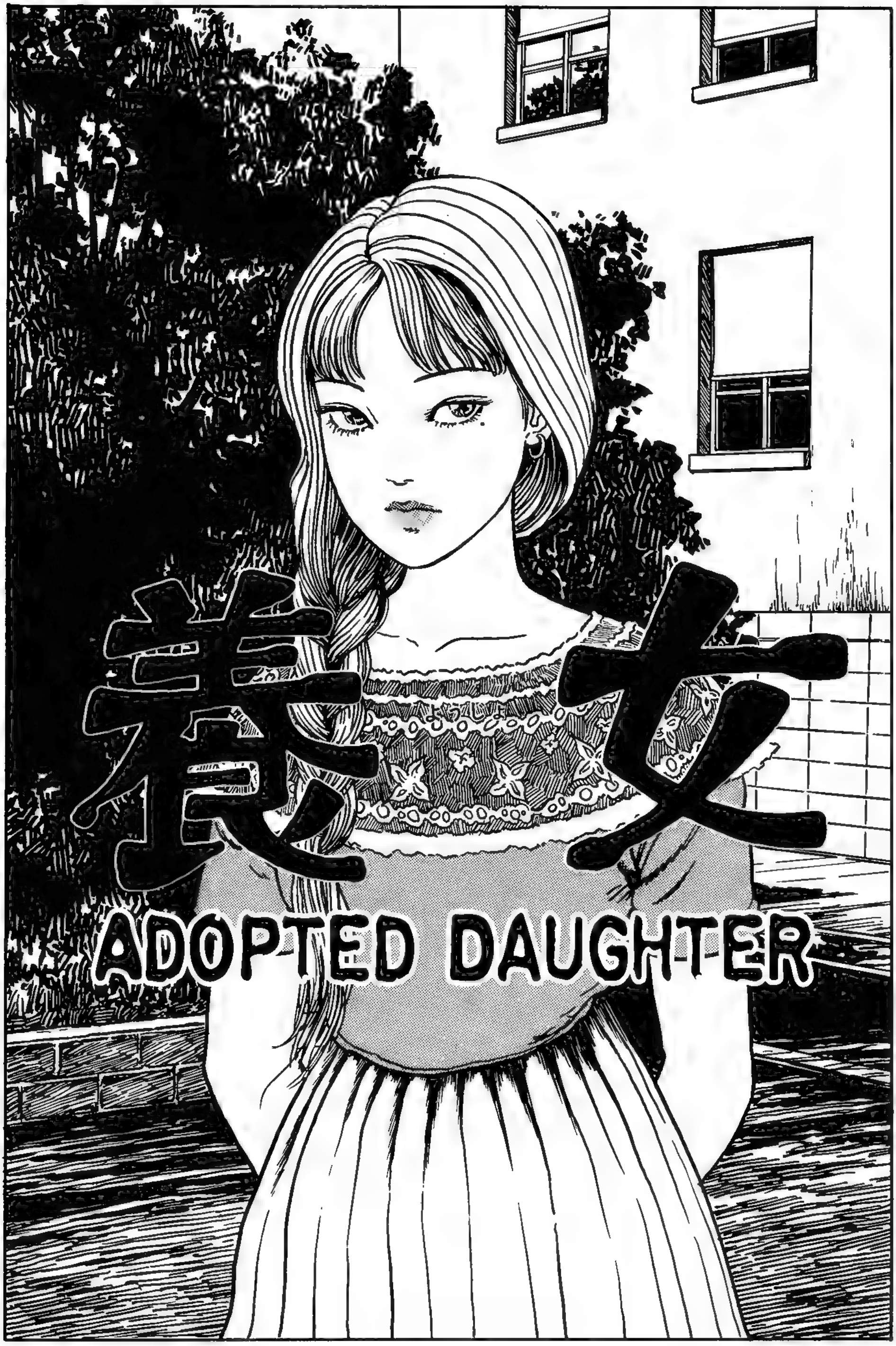
EEK ...

TEETER

THOPP!

THEY TELL ME THE HAIR SHOT OUT OF HER EVERY PORE.

BEFORE LONG, MIKI'S BODY WAS COMPLETELY ENSHROUDED.


養子
ADOPTED DAUGHTER

The Hinadas? What, those rich old weirdos up in 3-chome? The ones with that huge mansion?

You hear about the Hinadas? That daughter they adopted a while back? She's dead now.

Another girl? How many has it been?

You know, it wouldn't surprise me. I see them now and then... Gives me the willies, every time. No telling what they get up to behind closed doors.

The death got chalked up to "unknown causes."

Who knows? They should start their own cemetery.

Didn't the police question them?

But from what I hear, this has got to be abuse related.

You know what they do to the girls? Well, what I hear is...

Well, I'm told the old man goes way back with the police. He's tied up with all the top brass. If they wanted, they could get away with just about anything.

HOW ABOUT THIS ONE? WHEN I WAS A YOUNG THING MYSELF, IT TOOK ME TO ALL THE FINEST BALLS.

YES, YES YOU ARE. WHAT DRESS ARE WE GOING TO WEAR TODAY, HMM?

WHAT A PRETTY YOUNG DEAR YOU ARE...

HAH! LISTEN TO THE GIRL.

SURELY YOU'RE JOKING. YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE. COME SHOW US HOW YOU LOOK...

PLEASE... LET ME GO TO TOWN, WON'T YOU?

ARE YOU SAYING I CAN GO OUT? MOTHER... FATHER ...

IT'S TRUE. YOUTH REALLY IS WASTED ON THE YOUNG.

YOU CAN'T FOOL AN OLD FOOL.

AS SOON AS WE LET YOU GO, YOU'D SCAMPER YOUR WAY BACK TO THE ORPHANAGE, WOULDN'T YOU?

GAH!

NNARF

AS ARE ITS PRIVILEGES— LIKE THIS BEAUTIFUL SKIN OF YOURS.

STOP IT! FATHER! MOTHER! PLEASE DON'T...

SLURP SLURP

GROWL

EEEEK!

SLUP

SLUP SLUP

OH, SHUT YOUR TRAP. IT'S NOT FAIR, YOU KEEPING ALL THIS YOUTH TO YOURSELF. IF YOU WON'T SHARE, I'LL JUST HAVE TO SUCK IT OUT OF YOU!

YOU CAN'T GET AWAY!

ACK!

GNK KK

NO!!

THE DOORS ARE ALL LOCKED!

HEE HEE HEE! NO USE RUNNING, DEAR!

YAHHH!

HEE HEE HEE!

HUFF HUFF

CHAK KACHAK

That's... disturbing. Is there any truth to it?

Really?

AAHH!

...Or that's how I heard it, anyway. After that, the old couple just devoured the girl.

You're asking the wrong guy. How should I know?

If people are getting suspicious, well no wonder.

Anyway, the fact is, all the girls they've adopted have died, all under mysterious circumstances.

SNUFF

SNUFF

SNUFF

SNUFF

Hinada Mansion

SNORF
SNFF

...

SNUFF
SNIFF
SNUFF
SNRFF

WHAT KIND OF A GOD WOULD DO THIS TO US?

WHY DO THEY ALWAYS DIE? AGAIN AND AGAIN...

STOP CRYING, MY DEAR. YOUR TEARS WON'T BRING HER BACK AGAIN.

B-BUT... SUGAR-PLUM...

PERHAPS IT'S KARMA. THE FATES DO SEEM TO BE AGAINST US.

MMM...

I WANT A CHILD. A LOVELY YOUNG GIRL...

BUT... BUT HONEY-BUNCH...

IT COULD BE FORTUNE'S WAY TO TELL US WE'RE NOT MEANT TO BE PARENTS.

FIRST THEY TAKE YOUR FERTILITY, THEN THEY TAKE WHATEVER CHILD WE ADOPT.

PERHAPS. BUT YOU KNOW, MY DEAR... THE ORPHANAGE WON'T LET US ADOPT AGAIN. NOT AFTER WE'VE LOST SO MANY GIRLS ALREADY...

AND IF THEY DID, AND SHE DIED—WHAT THEN? WE'D ONLY FEEL THE WORSE FOR IT.

WHENEVER I PASS MY REFLECTION, I FEEL SAD. WHERE HAS MY YOUTH GONE?

I'M SO OLD NOW...

I COULD DRESS HER UP, DO HER HAIR, MAKE HER PRETTY AS I ONCE WAS...

IF ONLY I HAD A DAUGHTER BY MY SIDE...

TO DOTE ON HER, TO ADMIRE HER— IT WOULD BE AT LEAST SOME COMFORT. IS THAT SO MUCH TO ASK?

IT PAINS ME, SEEING YOU SO DEJECTED...

OY, CHEER UP, MA'AM.

SNUFF SNUFF SNUFF

BUT... SWEET-CAKES...

SNIFF SNUFF

NOW, I'M NO SPRING CHICKEN MYSELF, BUT...

I KNOW IT'S NOT MY PLACE TO SAY THESE THINGS, BUT IF YOU WANT A DAUGHTER, I CAN DO ALL THE DUTIES AND THEN SOME. JUST ASK ME ANYTHING.

BUT... AHH, I'M SORRY. I NEED A YOUNG GIRL... SOMEONE TO REMIND ME OF MY GLORY DAYS...

THANK YOU, SATOKO... YOU'VE BEEN IN OUR CARE FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS. OF COURSE I THINK OF YOU AS A DAUGHTER.

SRIT SRIT

MASTER, I TOOK CARE OF ALL MY DUTIES. I CAME TO SAY GOOD NIGHT.

OH, SURE. RIGHT. GOOD NIGHT, SATOKO.

TSSSHHHH

AH !!

TSSHHHH

WHOOP... NOW HOW'D I LEAVE THAT ONE OPEN?

SSHHH

MASTER! OH, PLEASE COME! THERE'S A PERSON! SHE'S FALLEN IN THE GARDEN!!

PLEASE! WAKE UP, WILL YOU?

MISS... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU?

URR... HRMM...

SHE MUST HAVE COLLAPSED FROM EXHAUSTION. OTHERWISE, THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THE GIRL.

ALL SHE NEEDS IS SOME REST. JUST LET HER BE FOR NOW.

I DON'T KNOW.

DEAREST... TELL ME, WHO IS THIS GIRL?

THANKS AGAIN FOR COMING SO LATE AT NIGHT.

ON THAT NOTE ...

NICE TO SEE YOU WITH US, YOUNG MISS.

OH... SEE THERE, SHE'S COME AROUND!

WHERE...

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?

IT'S JUST OUR LITTLE CASTLE. WE FOUND YOU CRUMPLED OUT IN THE YARD.

I AM... TOMIE.

I HAVE NOWHERE TO GO. NO HOME, NO FAMILY.

WHERE ARE YOU FROM? WHAT'S YOUR NAME? WHAT WERE YOU DOING OUT ON SUCH A RAINY NIGHT?

MY DEAR... NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR QUES-TIONS.

OH DEAR. WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?

THEY DIED. THE AIRPLANE THEY WERE ON CRASHED... JUST YESTERDAY.

OH MY... HOW AWFUL!

I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. I WANDERED THROUGH TOWN FOR HOURS... AND THEN IT STARTED RAINING.

OH, YOU POOR LAMB!!

HMM... WELL...

HONEY, THE CHILD HAS NOWHERE ELSE TO GO! CAN'T SHE LIVE HERE WITH US, AT LEAST FOR A WHILE?

TO STAY HERE, WITH YOU... IT WOULD BE LIKE A DREAM.

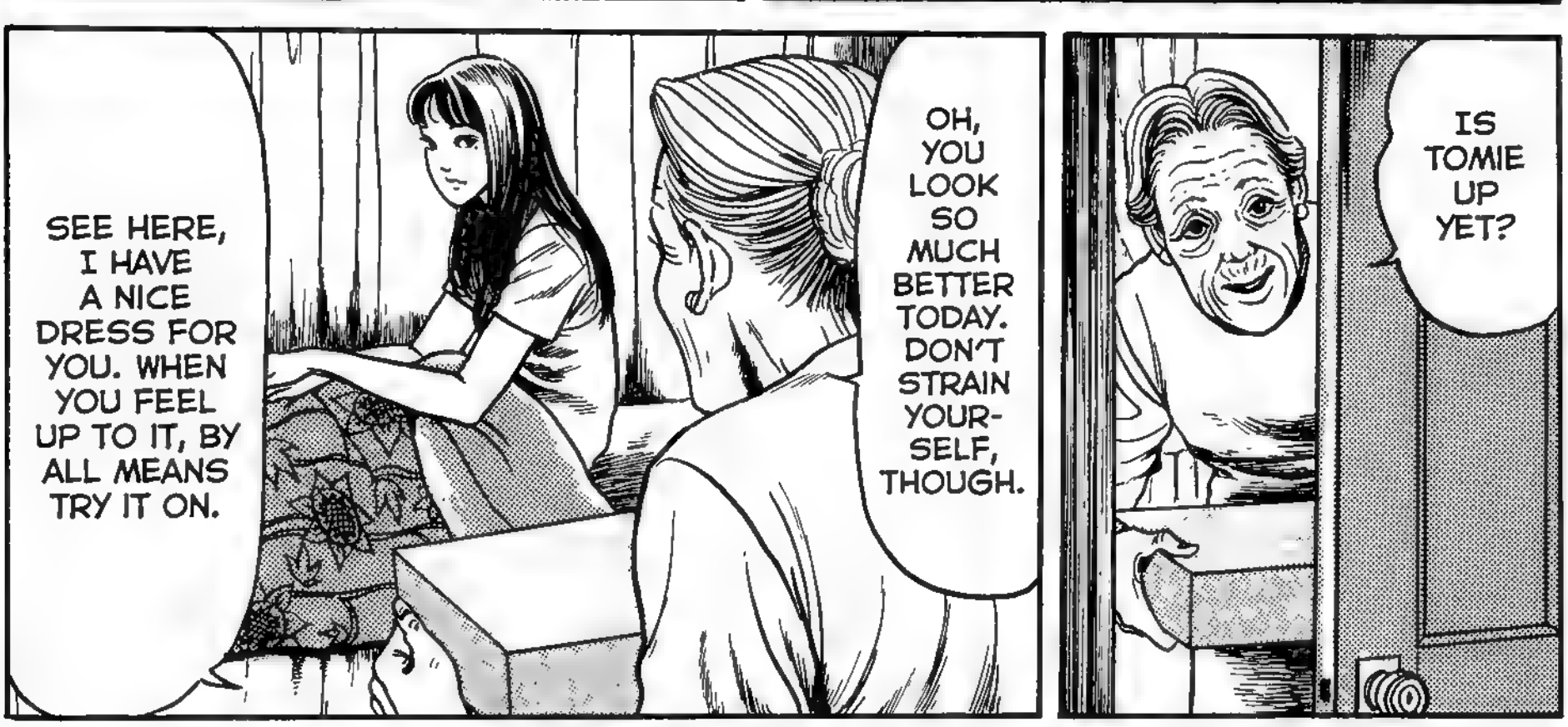
OH, HOW SWEET ...

I BEG YOU, PLEASE LET'S ADOPT HER.

SEE? DID YOU HEAR?

HOW ODD. YOU'D THINK IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALL OVER THE NEWS BY NOW...

A PLANE CRASH ?


SEE HERE, I HAVE A NICE DRESS FOR YOU. WHEN YOU FEEL UP TO IT, BY ALL MEANS TRY IT ON.
OH, YOU LOOK SO MUCH BETTER TODAY. DON'T STRAIN YOUR-SELF, THOUGH.
IS TOMIE UP YET?

THANK YOU, MOTHER. YOU'RE SO KIND.
IT'S LOVELY... YOU DID THAT FOR ME?
LIKE IT? I HAD IT TAILOR-MADE, JUST FOR YOU.

OH, TOMIE... THERE'S NOTHING YOU COULD SAY THAT WOULD DELIGHT ME MORE.

YES, OF COURSE... BECAUSE YOU ARE MY MOTHER... MY MARVELOUS MOTHER.

WHAT... WHAT DID YOU SAY JUST NOW? DID YOU CALL ME "MOTHER"?

OF COURSE. I'LL BUY YOU THE BEST IN TOWN.

I COULD USE A DIAMOND RING...

WHATEVER YOU WANT, IT'S ALREADY YOURS.

JUST ASK.

I SWEAR, MAMA WILL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU.

YES, MOTHER.

NOW GET SOME REST, TOMIE. I'LL SEND SATOKO UP WITH YOUR DINNER.

ENTER.

YOUR DINNER IS READY...

MISS TOMIE ?

HMPH.

EAT UP, NOW. THE MISSUS WANTS TO SEE YOU BETTER.

OH...

TELL ME, SATOKO, DON'T YOU HAVE ANY CAVIAR OR FOIE GRAS?

IS THAT ALL YOU HAVE? I EXPECTED SOMETHING MORE GRAND FROM A FAMILY LIKE THIS.

IN CASE YOU WERE WONDERING.

THIS ISN'T BAD. BUT IT'S NOT THAT GREAT, EITHER.

IT REALLY DOESN'T DO MUCH FOR ME.

HMPH. WHATEVER.

WELL, AS SOON AS YOU'RE BETTER, I'LL PREPARE SOME FOR YOU.

NOW, LEAVE.

NEXT TIME, PUT A LITTLE MORE EFFORT IN. IF YOU DON'T, YOU KNOW I CAN TALK TO MOTHER AND HAVE YOU DISMISSED.

OH, MY... TOMIE, YOU LOOK SIMPLY RADIANT!

TEE HEE HEE.

...

OH, YOU OLD TEASE.

SHE REMINDS ME OF YOU AS A GIRL.

YES, MOTHER.

I'VE A SPLENDID IDEA. HERE, TOMIE, LET ME DO UP YOUR HAIR.

HO HO HO HO.

HEH HEH.

IT'S LOVE-LY.

TOMIE, YOU CERTAIN-LY ARE A BEAUTY.

OH, TOMIE... WHAT GORGEOUS HAIR YOU HAVE.

DON'T YOU WORRY.

YOU'LL MAKE IT PRETTY, WON'T YOU, MOTHER?

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU UP AND ABOUT.

WHOA, THAT'S SO NEAT!

THERE. ALL DONE.

OF COURSE. JUST DON'T GET SO EXCITED YOU TRIP AND MUSS YOURSELF.

SHALL I STEP OUTSIDE, MOTHER?

IT WAS GOOD WE ADOPTED HER. I DON'T KNOW THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU SO HAPPY. SHE IS A MINOR MIRACLE, ISN'T SHE?

OH, MY PUDDING ...

LAH DEE DAHH

HO HO HO.

...MOTHER, IT'S MARVEL-OUS.

THIS DIAMOND ...

MOTHER, I'M... SO HAPPY, HONESTLY IT SCARES ME.

THIS HAP-PINESS... I PRAY IT LASTS FOREVER.

IT'S PERFECT ON YOU, TOMIE.

MOTHER? MOTHER, WHAT'S WRONG? WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

SNUFF SNUFF

UWA-AHHH!

COME ON. THERE'S NO NEED TO LIE. WHAT'S THE MATTER? IF YOU'RE CRYING, THERE MUST BE A REASON. PLEASE DON'T KEEP ANYTHING FROM ME.

I'M SORRY... IT'S NOTHING. DON'T TROUBLE YOURSELF.

BUT TOMIE... I BEG YOU, PLEASE DON'T GET... TOO UPSET.

WELL... I SUPPOSE I NEED TO TELL YOU SOONER OR LATER.

MOTHER, PLEASE.

BUT DON'T WORRY, TOMIE. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN. WE'LL MAKE SURE OF IT THIS TIME. TOMIE...?

...AND SO YOU SEE WHY WE WORRY. IF ALL THE OTHERS DIED...

I WASN'T EAVES-DROPPING. IT'S JUST HARD NOT TO HEAR, YOU KNOW.

BEFORE I COLLAPSED IN YOUR GARDEN... WHEN I WAS WANDERING THROUGH TOWN, THERE WERE THESE PEOPLE TALKING.

TOMIE... RUMORS? WHAT RUMORS?

SO THE RUMORS... THEY WERE ABOUT YOU, THEN.

NOW YOU'VE GOTTEN ME BOTHERED. JUST TELL ME, WHAT DID THEY SAY?

OH, MOTHER. LET'S JUST FORGET ABOUT IT. IT'S ONLY VICIOUS GOSSIP.

IT'S TOO AWFUL.

OH, I CAN'T REPEAT WHAT THEY SAID.

JEALOUS OF THE GIRLS' YOUTH AND BEAUTY, THEY WOULD HOLD THE GIRLS DOWN AND LATCH ON TO THEM LIKE LEECHES.

THEY WERE DISCUSSING AN ODD COUPLE THAT ADOPTS YOUNG GIRLS AND THEN TORTURES THEM TO DEATH.

WELL... I GUESS SINCE WE'RE NOT HIDING ANYTHING FROM EACH OTHER...

BUT...

BUT THAT'S TERRIBLE! WHO WOULD DO SUCH A THING?!

SRIT

SRIT

YES, WHO IS IT? COME ON IN.

TOK TOK

AND IT'S ALL SINCE YOU ARRIVED.

SHE'S SLEEPING SO MUCH BETTER THESE DAYS. IT'S LIKE SHE'S FOUND A NEW LEASE ON LIFE.

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK UNHAPPY.

SHE'S ALREADY IN BED.

OH, TOMIE.

WHERE'S ... MOTHER?

I SAY... WHAT ARE THOSE BLOTCHES ON YOUR ARM, CHILD?

GOOD HEAVENS! TOMIE...

OH, FATHER!!

FATHER! SHE... I... MOTHER'S SCARING ME!!

I'VE TRIED TO LIVE WITH IT, BUT I JUST CAN'T BEAR IT ANYMORE.

IT'S MOTHER... WHENEVER I'M ALONE WITH HER, SHE LUNGES AT ME! SHE SAYS SHE WANTS MY YOUTH, AND THEN SHE TRIES TO SUCK IT OUT!!

IN HEAVEN'S NAME, WHY?

WHAT'S THIS, NOW? SCARING YOU?

THESE MARKS... YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT THEY ARE?

I TELL YOU, SHE'S ABNORMAL!

OH, FATHER! PLEASE, YOU MUST HELP ME!

IF THIS GOES ON ANY LONGER... I'LL GO INSANE!

AND WHEN SHE CATCHES ME—AND SHE ALWAYS DOES...

NO, MOTHER! PLEASE!

HEE HEE HEE

SHE CHASES AFTER ME, SHOUTING "I WANT TO BE YOUNG AGAIN!"

DO YOU THINK I MADE ALL THIS UP?!

FINE, THEN. JUST WAIT FOR TOMORROW. THEN WE'LL ALL SEE.

BUT I'M TELLING THE TRUTH! WHAT ABOUT THE MARKS, THEN? DO YOU THINK I DID IT TO MYSELF?

I'VE LIVED WITH HER FOR FORTY YEARS. THAT'S NOT LIKE HER AT ALL.

TOMIE! CALM DOWN. THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE.

OR HOW ABOUT A CURL?

SHALL I BRAID IT?

TOMIE, HOW SHOULD WE DO YOUR HAIR TODAY?

AND YOUR SKIN... SO FAIR, IT'S ALMOST TRANSPARENT ...

YOUR HAIR IS JUST AS LOVELY AS ALWAYS.

MOTHER, NO!! DON'T! PLEASE DON'T!

SLUP

SLORF

SLURP

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

SLURF SLUP

MROM

SLURF SLUP

STOP IT! STOP IT!!

YOU NITWIT!

W-WHAT WAS I...?

...

SLOFF...

UH...

YOU DISAP-POINT ME.

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU?! YOU MIGHT MISS YOUR YOUTH... BUT TO BEHAVE LIKE THIS? THERE'S NO EXCUSE.

TOMIE... BOTH OF YOU... PLEASE FORGIVE ME!

D-DAR-LING... I... THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH ME!

I'M GOING OUT OF MY MIND. IT'S THOSE RUMORS. EVER SINCE THAT NIGHT, WHEN TOMIE TOLD ME...

SNRFF... SNFF... HONESTLY, I DON'T KNOW WHY I DID WHAT I DID. I DON'T UNDERSTAND. SATOKO, SURELY YOU MUST BELIEVE ME?

I KNOW YOU TOO WELL NOT TO. THIS ISN'T LIKE YOU AT ALL.

OF COURSE I BELIEVE YOU! OH, MA'AM.

I BECAME OBSESSED... ALL THIS EMOTION BUILT UP INSIDE ME. AND THEN I... I MUST HAVE SNAPPED.

I'VE BEEN PETRIFIED. I KEPT THINKING, WHAT IF IT'S TRUE? WHAT IF IT COULD BE?

I KNEW IT WAS WRONG. THE MORE I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, THE HARDER IT WAS TO RESIST.

SHE SAID HER PARENTS ARE DEAD. IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN WHY IS IT THERE'S NO ACCOUNT OF A PLANE CRASH?

AND YOU KNOW I CHECKED THAT BACKWARD AND FORWARD.

THINK ABOUT IT. LOOK AT HOW SHE INSINUATED HERSELF HERE.

HONESTLY, IF ANYTHING STRIKES ME AS ODD ABOUT THIS BUSINESS, IT'S TOMIE.

I... SUPPOSE THERE'S NO CHANCE TOMIE WILL STAY, AFTER ALL THIS. IT WILL BE LONELY WITHOUT HER.

IT'S... IT'S ALL RIGHT, SATOKO. THAT'S ENOUGH. BUT THANK YOU. IT'S NICE TO KNOW SOMEONE BELIEVES ME...

IT ALL FEELS PLANNED, LIKE SHE WANTED IT TO WORK OUT THIS WAY.

SHE'S UP TO SOME-THING, I TELL YOU.

AND THOSE RUMORS. LOOK AT HER MANNER IN BRINGING THEM UP!

I'M ASHAMED IT'S TAKEN ME SO LONG TO NOTICE. YOU ARE MORE DAUGHTER THAN I COULD EVER DESERVE.

OH, SATOKO... IT'S TRUE. IF ANYONE IN THE WORLD IS INDISPENSABLE, IT SHOULD BE YOU.

OH MA'AM. YOU DON'T NEED HER. REMEMBER, I'LL BE HERE. I'M ALWAYS HERE FOR YOU.

I... DON'T DESERVE SUCH FAVORS ...

OH... MA'AM...

AFTER ALL, IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANY OTHER FAMILY.

IN FACT... IF YOU'RE AMENABLE, I WOULD BE HONORED TO ADOPT YOU OFFICIALLY.

SRIT SRIT

SATOKO, COULD YOU FETCH ME SOME WATER?

NO? WELL... YOU KNOW, I'M FEELING RATHER PARCHED.

OF COURSE. RIGHT AWAY.

SPANG

SORRY, MA'AM, FOR TAKING SO LONG...

AIEEEK!

SNFF... SNFF...

OH MASTER, I'M SO SORRY ...

IT'S ALL MY FAULT. I SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT HER.

SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO ADOPT ME. AND I...

BUT... BEFORE SHE DIED... SHE...

YES... YES, COMING!

SATOKO! WHAT ON EARTH IS KEEPING YOU, WOMAN?!

SATOKO!

SATOKO!

SATOKO, HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU? YOUR SOUP IS TOO SALTY! THIS ISN'T BRAIN SURGERY, YOU KNOW!

YES, MISS TOMIE? WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

YES... RIGHT AWAY.

CHINK

OH. I'M SO SORRY. I THOUGHT I'D THINNED IT ENOUGH...

NO EXCUSES, PLEASE! JUST FIX IT!

AND YOU KNOW, IT'S FUNNY. WHAT'S IT BEEN, SIX MONTHS AND NOT A SIGN YET OF IT WORKING.

SHE'S BECOMING MORE INSOLENT BY THE MINUTE.

THAT HUSSY...

GOD, THAT MUST BE THE WORST MAID EVER!

...

WHY DOESN'T IT WORK THIS TIME? OF ALL THE GIRLS... WHY IS SHE IMMUNE TO IT?

I FIGURE THIS POISON I'VE BEEN SERVING SHOULD'VE KILLED HER TWICE OVER BY NOW... AND ALL WITHOUT A TRACE.

IF POISONING'S NO GOOD ON HER, I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO TAKE TO MORE DRASTIC MEASURES.

IF I DON'T ACT FAST, THAT BRAT WILL WIND UP WITH EVERYTHING.

SRI—T

SRIT

TSSHHH

TSSHHH

FITTING THAT IT'S A NIGHT LIKE TONIGHT WHEN SHE'S LEAVING.

HEH HEH... IT WAS A RAINY NIGHT JUST LIKE THIS WHEN SHE CAME...

ACK!

REEAK

CHUK

CHUK

S... SIR?

FUFF

HUFF

YEEK!! KEEP BACK! PLEASE, SIR!

WHEN I LOOKED AT HER, I JUST GOT THIS URGE TO KILL...

SATOKO, BELIEVE ME... I WAS OUT OF MY MIND!

YEAH, SHE'S DEAD! SHE'S DEAD ALREADY!

M... MASTER ... TOMIE...

GWAHHH!!

WAHH! HELP ME!!

D... DON'T YOU BELIEVE ME, SATOKO?

I CAN'T ALLOW THAT.

HELP!

WAIT, SATOKO... WHERE ARE YOU GOING...? THE POLICE?

AAHH!!

SRIT

CHUFF CHUFF

GYA-AHHH!

SLASH

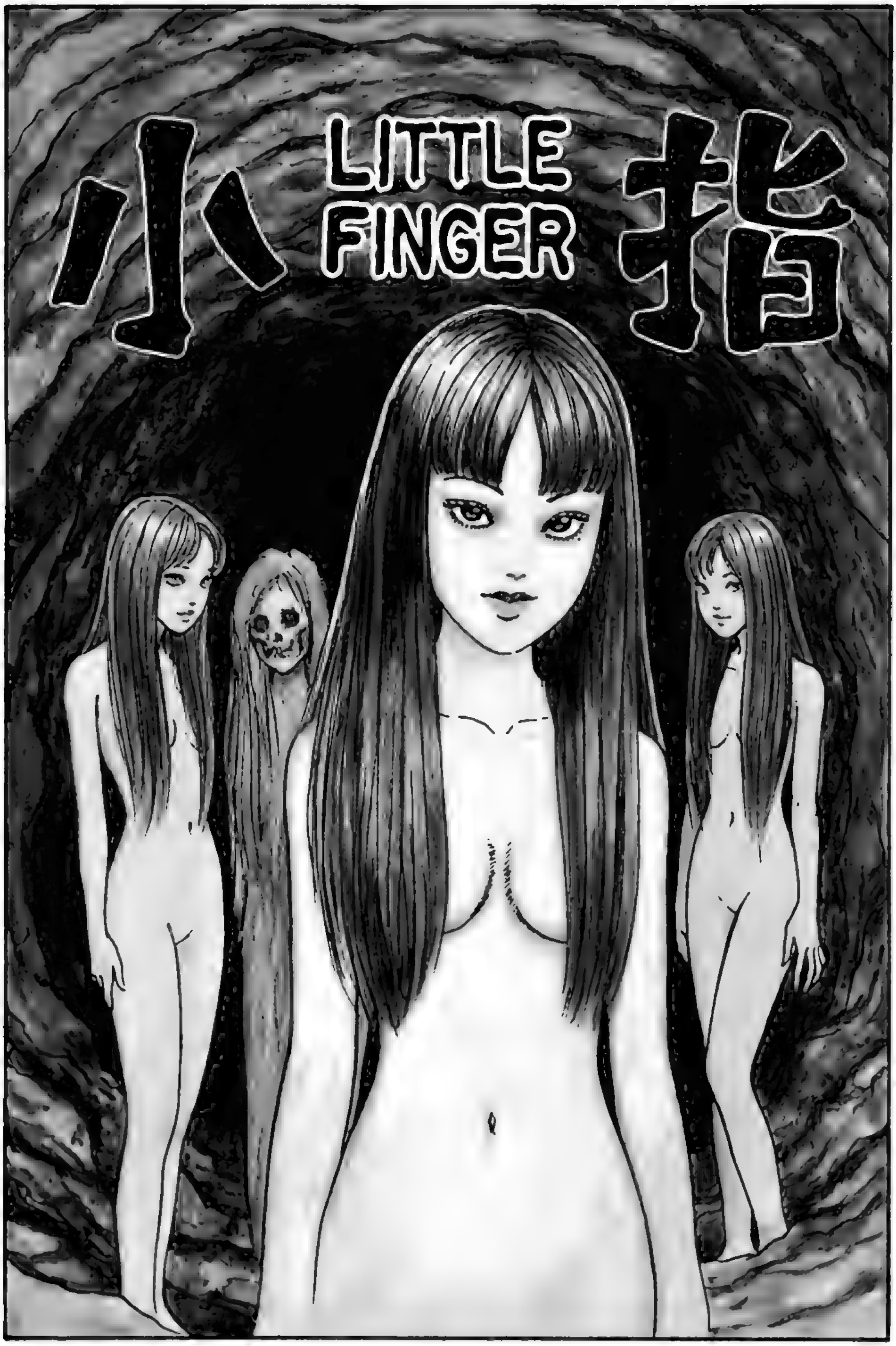
Hey, did you hear about the Hinadas? From 3-chome? There was this horrible murder at the mansion.

It was the old man who did it. Then he took his own life.

At least this time the daughter lived, if barely. That's some estate she's geared to inherit...

ADOPTED DAUGHTER / END

小指
LITTLE FINGER



IT WAS GOOD TRAIN-ING. BY THE TIME I GREW UP, I KNEW HOW WORTH-LESS I WAS. AND I KNEW NOT TO TRUST ANYONE.

IT DIDN'T HURT THAT I WAS SHORT AND UGLY— AT LEAST, NOT AS MUCH AS THEIR FISTS.

AS THE YOUNGEST OF FOUR BOYS...

...I QUICKLY LEARNED MY PLACE IN THE WORLD.

IT'S GOOD TO MEET YOU.

EVERY-ONE.

...I WAS NOT THE FIRST TO SPREAD MY ARMS IN GREET-ING.

SO YOU SEE HOW, WHEN SHE ENTERED OUR LIVES...

WE MIGHT AS WELL GET ACQUAINTED. THIS, BOYS, IS YOUR NEW MOTHER.

SHE CALLED HERSELF TOMIE.

SHE WAS YOUNG AND BEAUTI-FUL.

HELLO ...

ER...

NO SOONER DID SHE MOVE IN THAN THE TROUBLE BEGAN.

WHY ELSE WOULD SHE LOOK TWICE AT HIM?

HMPH... A GOLD DIGGER IF EVER I SAW ONE.

IT DIDN'T TAKE LONG FOR HER TO RECIPROCATE, EITHER. MOTHERLY LOVE, INDEED.

MY BROTHERS REGARDED HER NOT AS THEIR MOTHER...

...BUT AS A WOMAN.

I WONDER IF DAD EVER KNEW. SOMETHING TELLS ME HE HAD HIS SUSPICIONS.

I'M STILL THE OLDEST. AND WITH DAD DEAD, THAT MAKES ME HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M LISTENING TO THIS.

LOOK, HAVE YOU REALLY THOUGHT THIS THROUGH? SERIOUSLY, YOU CAN'T.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL I SHOULD INHERIT HIS WIFE, AS WELL.

OH... NOTHING MUCH.

HUH?

WHAT ARE YOU BOYS TALKING ABOUT?

NO, I CAN'T DO THAT.

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.

ALWAYS STICKING TOGETHER.

HEH HEH...

WHY DON'T YOU TRY AND JOIN IN?

EXCEPT FOR THE YOUNGEST. HIROYA, HAVE YOU BEEN LEFT OUT AGAIN?

...

HERE'S AN IDEA! HOW ABOUT WE GO PLAY A GAME OF CARDS TOGETHER? WE CAN GO UP TO MY ROOM, IF YOU WANT TO BE ALONE.

COME ON. LET'S HAVE SOME FUN.

LET GO!!

WHAT THE...

...

THAT SO ...?

I THINK HE'S KIND OF ADORABLE.

HE'S NOT WORTH YOUR TIME.

DON'T MIND HIM, TOMIE. HE'S JUST WARPED. THAT'S ALL.

He's ugly, too.

IF SHE WANTED TO TEASE ME, THAT WAS HER BUSINESS.

SHE WOULD BANG AT MY DOOR EVERY NIGHT. I JUST SAT AND LET HER FUME AWAY.

BAM BAM

AFTER THAT, I COULDN'T BEAT HER AWAY WITH A STICK.

SOON ENOUGH, MY JEALOUS BROTHERS INTERVENED.

AND PUT ME BEHIND AN EVEN STURDIER DOOR.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D SHUT ME OUT LIKE THIS!

I TAKE IT SHE WASN'T USED TO BEING IGNORED. IT MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE THE BLOW TO HER SELF-IMAGE.

HIROYA... WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN THERE, ANYWAY?!

I KNOW YOU'RE NOT LIKE THIS! WHY CAN'T YOU JUST OPEN UP?!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, EMBARRASS ME? I'VE NEVER SEEN SUCH BEHAVIOR IN MY LIFE!

TEP TEP TEP

YOU KNOW, THEY'RE FIGHTING OVER ME NOW.

WHAT DO THEY THINK I AM, ANYWAY?

WHAT AWFUL BROTH-ERS YOU HAVE.

POOR YOU, HIROYA... THE BASE-MENT'S NO PLACE FOR YOU.

HIROYA... DON'T YOU LIKE ME? EVEN A LITTLE?

HIROYA? ARE YOU LISTENING?

YOU KNOW I CARE ABOUT YOU, RIGHT?

YOU CAN JUST DRY UP IN THERE.

AS IF I'D EVER FALL FOR A LUNKHEAD LIKE YOU.

BYE-BYE.

YOU REALLY ARE A LOST CAUSE, YOU KNOW THAT?

HMPH !!

THERE WERE SOME SIGNS OF LIFE. EACH NIGHT WAS GRACED WITH WHAT SOUNDED LIKE A BARROOM BRAWL.

KLUDGE

PAKKA

KRAK

SHE WASN'T FAR WRONG. THERE WAS NOTHING TO EAT OR DRINK IN THE BASEMENT. AND NO ONE CAME DOWN.

HAA

HAA

THIS IS... BAD. I'M... GOING TO STARVE TO DEATH.

HAA

HAA

KACHAK

HEY.

PLEASE! I NEED FOOD!

S... SOME-ONE!

GUYS!!

YOU CAN EAT WHAT-EVER YOU WANT, AS MUCH AS YOU WANT.

HIROYA... YOU CAN COME OUT NOW.

BROTHER!!

I NEED FOOD.

JUST GET ME OUT OF HERE.

WHAT-EVER... WHAT-EVER YOU WANT.

IF YOU AGREE, THEN I'LL UNLOCK THE DOOR, OKAY?

BUT... I NEED YOU TO DO SOMETHING.

ALL RIGHT. HERE'S WHAT WE NEED YOU TO DO...

SHE RIDICULED US...

...SO WE KILLED HER.

WE WOUND UP CUTTING TOMIE TO PIECES.

B... BROTH-ER...

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I FOUND MYSELF ON THE HIGHWAY, WITH A VAN FULL OF DEATH.

VRRRRR

AND SO...

I REALLY SHOULD JUST DITCH THIS CAR, AND FIND SOME ROCK TO HIDE UNDER.

THIS IS TER-RIBLE...

THIS IS TERRI-BLE...

IT'S GETTING NEAR SUNDOWN.

VRRRR

SHEESH ...

YOU KNOW, DISPOS-ING OF A CORPSE ...

IT AIN'T AS EASY AS YOU'D THINK.

VRRRRR

GLAZOM

I DON'T WANNA DRIVE IN THE DARK WITH THIS CARGO.

!

ER... UM...

MUST JUST... BE THE VIBRATIONS, FROM THE DRIVING...

OKAY, WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING...?

WHAT ...

THIS IS IT. TIME TO BURY IT, BEFORE NIGHT-FALL.

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.

!

BUT... IS SHE WATCHING ME?

I KNOW... IT'S JUST A CORPSE ...

BUT IS SHE... REALLY DEAD?!

VIBRA-TIONS ARE ONE THING...

THIS... THIS IS NUTS.

SKREEEE

HOLY SHIT!

WHA ...

I... CAN'T MOVE MY...

CRAP ...

KRUNCH

AAHHH!

LET... LET GO!

NO! NO!

GET... OFF... OF ME!

WHAT THE FRICKIN' HELL!

SNAPP

KRAK

KRAK

GYA-
AHHH
!!

I SPENT THE NIGHT IN THE WOODS.

IT WAS TWO DAYS BEFORE I LEFT THE MOUNTAIN.

AAHH!!

Hiroya Kobayashi (20)

OH SHIT.

IT'S MY BROTHERS... THEY MUST HAVE FRAMED ME.

IT WAS THERE THAT I LEARNED I WAS WANTED FOR A CRIME OF SOMEONE ELSE'S PASSION.

HALF-STARVED, I WANDERED INTO A CAFETERIA.

SO BACK TO THE MOUNTAIN IT WAS.

EVEN IF I TURN MYSELF IN... I DOUBT THEY LEFT MUCH TO BACK UP MY SIDE OF THE STORY.

食堂

WHERE DO I GO NOW?

FLOOF

SO I ADOPTED IT AS MY MAKE-SHIFT HOME.

AFTER A WHILE, I CAME ACROSS A CAVE. IT SEEMED DRY ENOUGH.

WHOO...

SO COLD ...

HM?

WHAT'S THIS?

NGAH!

HOW... HOW DID THEY GET IN MY POCKET?

WAS IT WHEN I BROKE THEM OFF? DID THEY JUST FALL IN?

ALL FOUR TOGETHER? BY CHANCE?

THAT WOMAN... BY GOD...

SHE REALLY WAS A CREEP.

I THREW THEM...

...INTO THE FIRE.

THE FARMERS JUST LEAVE THEIR FOOD FOR THE TAKING.

NOW THAT I'M USED TO IT, THIS CAVE LIFE ISN'T SO BAD...

CHOLL CHOLL

CHUFF CHUFF

A MONTH PASSED.

COMPARED TO LIVING WITH MY BROTHERS...

AND JUST AS WELL. IT'S NICE TO HAVE SOME PEACE AND QUIET FOR ONCE.

NO ONE WILL COME LOOKING FOR ME HERE.

I MIGHT AS WELL STAY HERE FOREVER...

...THIS IS HEAVEN.

SHIFF

DESPERATE TO GET AWAY, I MADE A LEAP.

HOLD IT!

I WAS SPOTTED ONE NIGHT SNEAKING AROUND A FARM-HOUSE.

BUT COM-FORT LEADS TO SLOPPI-NESS.

IT'S DEEP, TOO.

AW, CRUD.

HUFF HUFF

GURN

HUFF HUFF

STUPID, STUPID, STUPID.

SHIT.

PSSH PSST

PSST WSST

WHUH?

FRICKIN' HELL... CAN'T SLEEP WITH MY LEG LIKE THIS.

UNNG.

PSSH PSST

PSSH PSST

THAT'S NOT IT...

NO...

COPS, MAYBE?

WHO THE...

WHAT IN HELL IS...?

IT'S COMING FROM THE DEEP END...

SSST
WSST

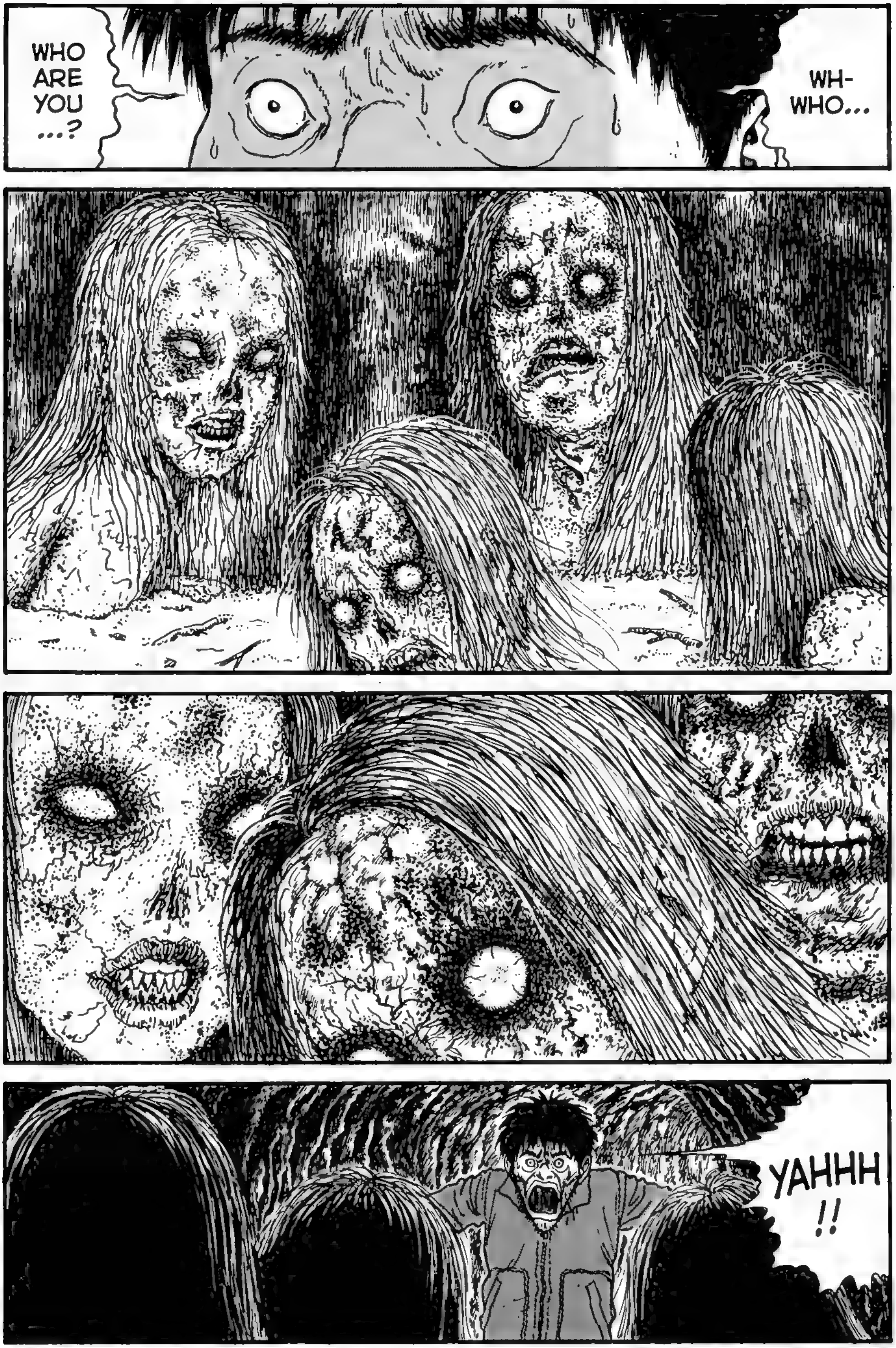
PSST
PSSH

TSSH
WSSH

PSSH
SSST

PSST
PSST

WSSH
WSST


WHO ARE YOU ...?
WH- WHO...
YAHHH !!

WHAT ?!

IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT I LOOK LIKE THIS.

YOU'RE SO CRUEL.

AND LOOK, I'M STILL BETTER OFF THAN PINKY.

OH, SHUT UP, INDEX! YOU WERE JUST LUCKY. YOU DIDN'T GET BURNED SO MUCH.

LOOK AT THEM...

I'M ACTUALLY THE BEST OFF.

HEH HEH HEH. POOR LITTLE PINKY...

PINKIES ARE SO THIN AND DAINTY, SHE GOT THE WORST OF IT.

SHOW HIM YOUR LOVELY FACE.

YEAH! LET'S SEE IT, PINKY...

GRR

HO HO HO HO HO

I DON'T... I DON'T UNDER-STAND...

INDEX ...? PINKY... FINGERS ?

HO HO HO HO HO HO HO

GRRK

HO HO HO HO HO HO

OH HO HO HO HO HO HO HO

HO HO HO HO HO

TOMIE'S FINGERS?

IS IT SOMETHING TO DO WITH...

HO HO HO HO HO HO HO HO HO

FIN-GERS ...

FIN-GERS ...

...OR WHAT'S LEFT OF THEM. THEY'RE BURNT, BUT...

AND THEIR FACES...

THEIR VOICES... THEY SOUND JUST LIKE HER.

COME TO THINK OF IT...

THAT WOMAN...

THAT TOMIE...

BAD... FEVER...

HAA HAA

MRR- RMNG ...

NGG- GRRN ...

UHNG ... GNAA ...

TEE HEE HEE...

HOO HOO HOO.

HUH!

UGH, THE PUS...

CUT... MUST BE INFECTED...

CALL IT JUST RETRI- BUTION.

SERVES YOU RIGHT...

HO HO HO HO.

HEH HEH.

ME TOO ...

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO PASS YOU.

YEAH? WELL, I'M NOT SO FAR BEHIND.

CHALK IT UP TO METABO-LISM.

LOOK AT ME... DON'T YOU THINK I'M GETTING PRETTIER?

YOU HAVEN'T IM-PROVED AT ALL, MY DEAR.

LITTLE PINKY ...

ON THE OTHER HAND...

HO HO HO HO HO

FUMP

HAA...

HUUH ...

YOU'RE SO SCORCHED, I DO BELIEVE YOU'LL STAY THE WAY YOU ARE FOREVER...

HEE. POOR LITTLE FINGER.

WAH HA HA HA HA HA

YOU DISFIG-URED LUMP.

MONSTER.

HEY HEY, UGLY DUCK-LING.

FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS, I WAS TREATED TO A SHOW OF TORTURE AND ABUSE.

GAH HA HA HA HA HA

...STOP IT!

S...

...STOP...

AIE-EEE!

AIEEEE!

GUMPH

I'M TELLING YOU TO STOP, ALREADY!

JUST LEAVE PINKY ALONE, GOT IT?!

ALL RIGHT, GUYS. THAT'S ENOUGH.

EEK!

LET GO!

HMPH... HEH HEH.

DUCKS OF A FEATHER STICK TOGETHER, EH? QUACK QUACK!

ACTING LIKE A WHITE KNIGHT... YOU'RE JUST A WANTED CRIMINAL.

HMPH... WHAT-EVER.

ONE BY ONE THEY LEFT THE CAVE, AS EACH ACHIEVED HER FULL BEAUTY.

APART FROM PINKY, THE FINGERS ALL IMPROVED RAPIDLY, THEIR SKIN TURNING DELICATE AND SHEER...

UNTIL THEY ALL WERE THE SPITTING IMAGE OF TOMIE.

FWEE

FWEE

...WITH POOR, UGLY PINKY.

I REMAINED BARELY CONSCIOUS...

FWEE

FWEE

HIROYA ...

...

GOOD RIDDANCE TO THEM, HUH.

Y... YEAH... HEY, PINKY...

WE'RE ALONE TOGETHER ...

AT LAST...

I LOVE YOU.

HIROYA ...

I'VE BEEN THERE MYSELF.

I KNOW HOW YOU MUST HAVE FELT...

FWEE FWEE

DO YOU... LOVE ME, HIROYA?

I SAID... I LOVE YOU.

I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE.

ACTUALLY ... YEAH... I'VE...

I THINK I DO...

Y... YEAH ...

HEH HEH HEH...

...

PLEASE STAY BESIDE ME... FOR-EVER...

LITTLE FINGER ... I DO LOVE YOU...

SO THIS IS THE TYPE YOU GO FOR?

OH DEAR.

TEE HEE HEE

HEE HEE HEE HO HO HO HO HO

...WITHOUT A MOMENT'S HESITATION.

THOUGH I HAD BUT A FEW DAYS LEFT TO LIVE, SHE LEFT...

AH, IT WAS FUN.

I'VE FINALLY FOUND SOMETHING TO TEASE YOU ABOUT...

TEE HEE HEE

AND THEN, WHEN SHE HAD HEALED ENOUGH ...

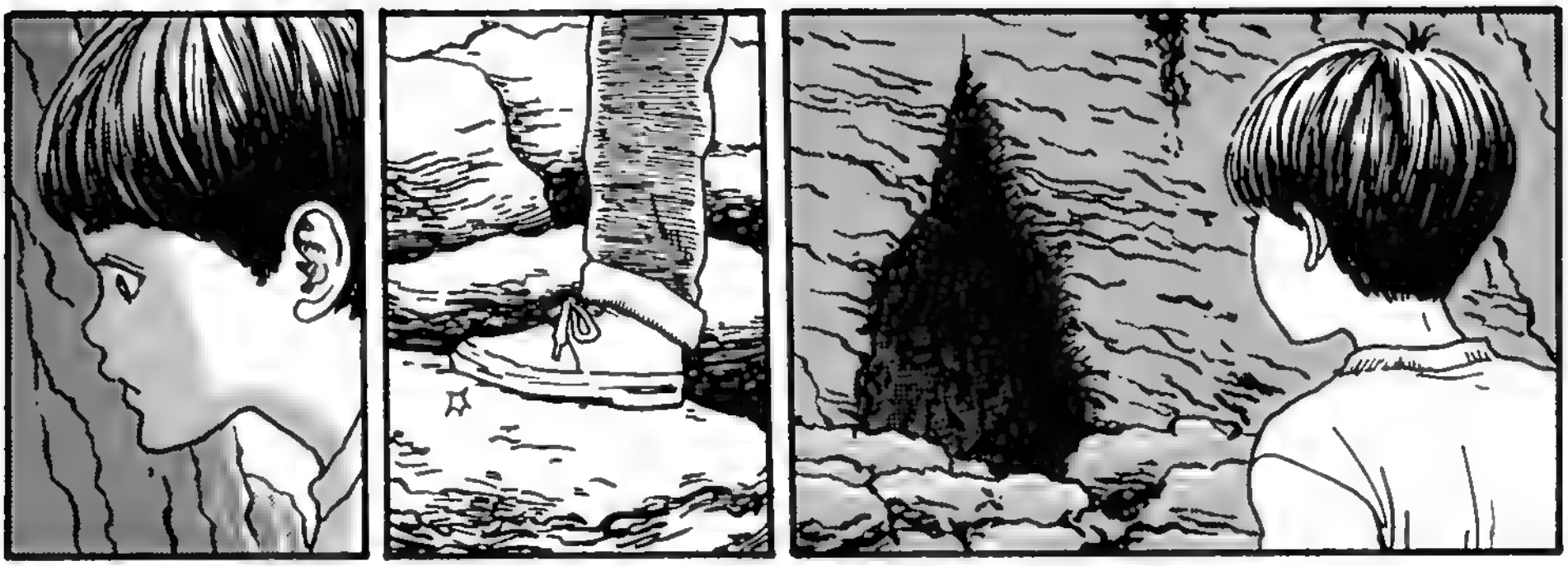
AFTER THAT, PINKY IMPROVED RAPIDLY.

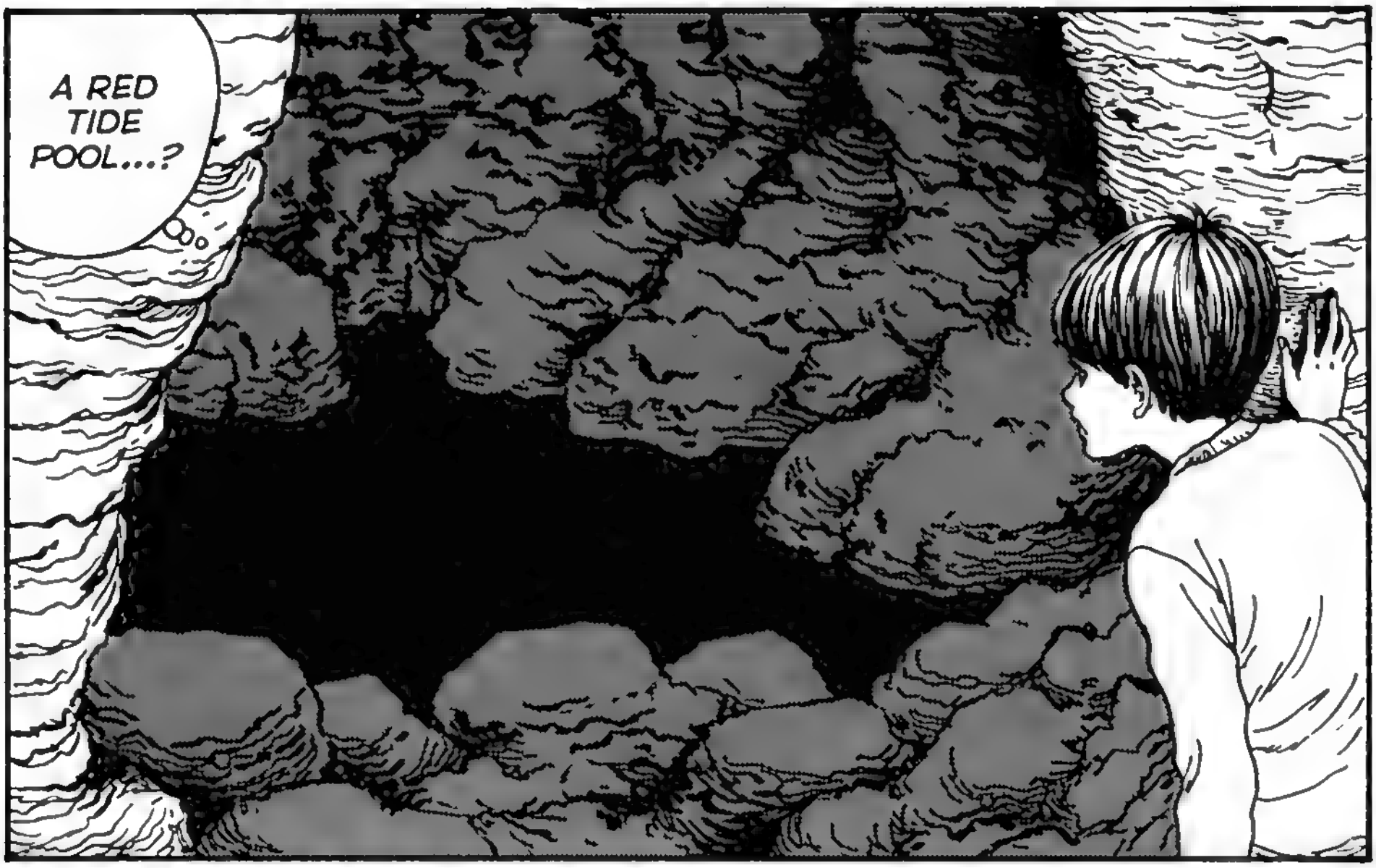
LITTLE FINGER / END

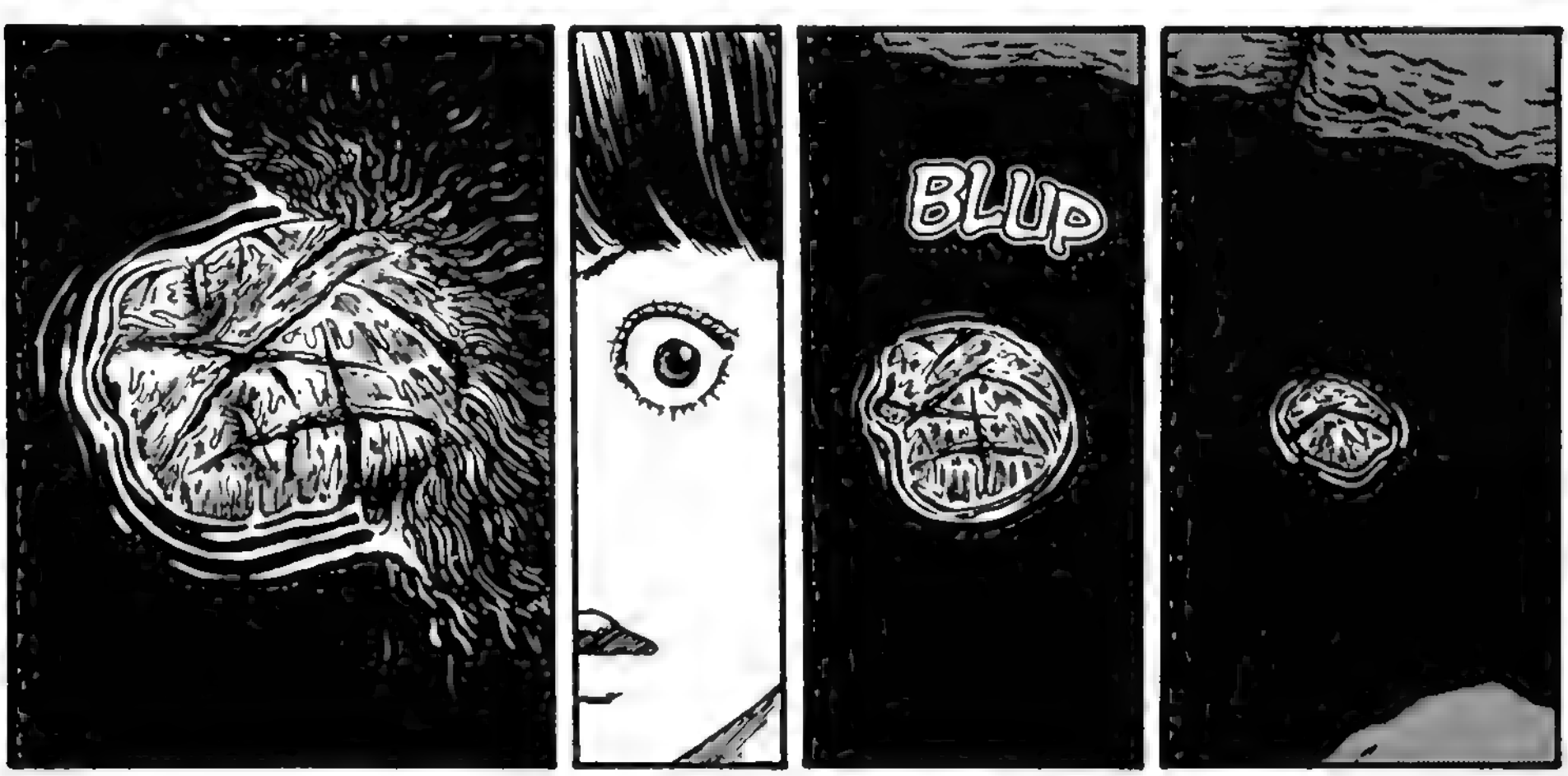
少年 BOY

SHAA SHAA SHAA...

Here follows a tale of misfortune that befell a loving family...




A RED TIDE POOL...?


BLUP

BLURP

BLUP

D... DEAD BODY...

WHOA !

YIKES!

KRUM

SCRK

THOOM

EEK!

LET'S PLAY TOGETHER.

SWEET LITTLE BOY...

LISTEN... LET'S PLAY.

I AM TOMIE.

WHO ARE YOU?

WHO ...

AND THREW ME DOWN HERE.

YEAH... A BAD MAN TORE ME APART.

IS ALL THE BLOOD YOURS?

BUT... YOU'RE HURT.

AND WE'LL PLAY TOGETHER, OKAY?

INSTEAD, COME VISIT ME HERE EVERY DAY.

BUT SWEETIE, DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT ME.

WHY ARE YOU STANDING THERE?

NOW COME OVER HERE, SWEETIE.

LET ME KISS YOU HELLO.

COME ON... IT'S ALL RIGHT...

WHAT'S THAT? SATORU?

BOYS WILL BE BOYS, WON'T THEY.

HA HA HA! THAT'S OKAY, THEN.

HE SAID HE FELL INTO A TIDE POOL.

MM... HE CAME BACK FROM THE BEACH SOAKING WET.

GIVES YOU CHAR-ACTER. MAKES YOU STRONG ON THE INSIDE.

NOTHING IS BETTER THAN THE FRESH SEA AIR FOR A GROWING BOY.

ANYWAY, SATORU'S THE REASON WE BOUGHT THIS HOUSE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

SHOOSH

WHAT A NICE BOY.

I'M GLAD YOU'VE COME BACK, SWEETIE ...

...

TODAY I'LL SHOW YOU HOW THE GOOD BOYS GET KISSED.

NOW... COME TO ME.

I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR FACE.

YOU MUST HAVE VERY GOOD PARENTS.

I CAN SEE THE KIND OF MAN YOU'LL BE WHEN YOU GROW UP. SINCERE, HONEST. THE PILLAR OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

OH SWEETIE. YOU MUST REALLY LOVE YOUR MOM.

THAT'S OKAY... I DON'T WANT TO GET DIRTY AGAIN. MOM WON'T LIKE IT.

AND SOME-THING I CAN WEAR...

AND NEXT TIME, TRY TO BRING ME SOMETHING TO EAT.

BUT STILL, DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THIS, OKAY?

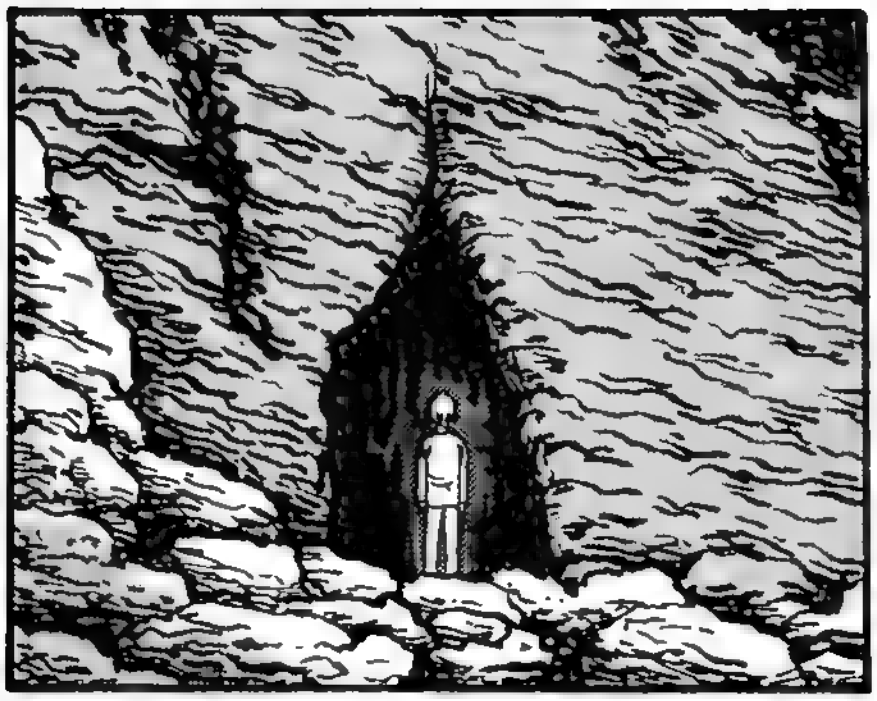
VERY BAD... THEY HURT LIKE CRAZY.

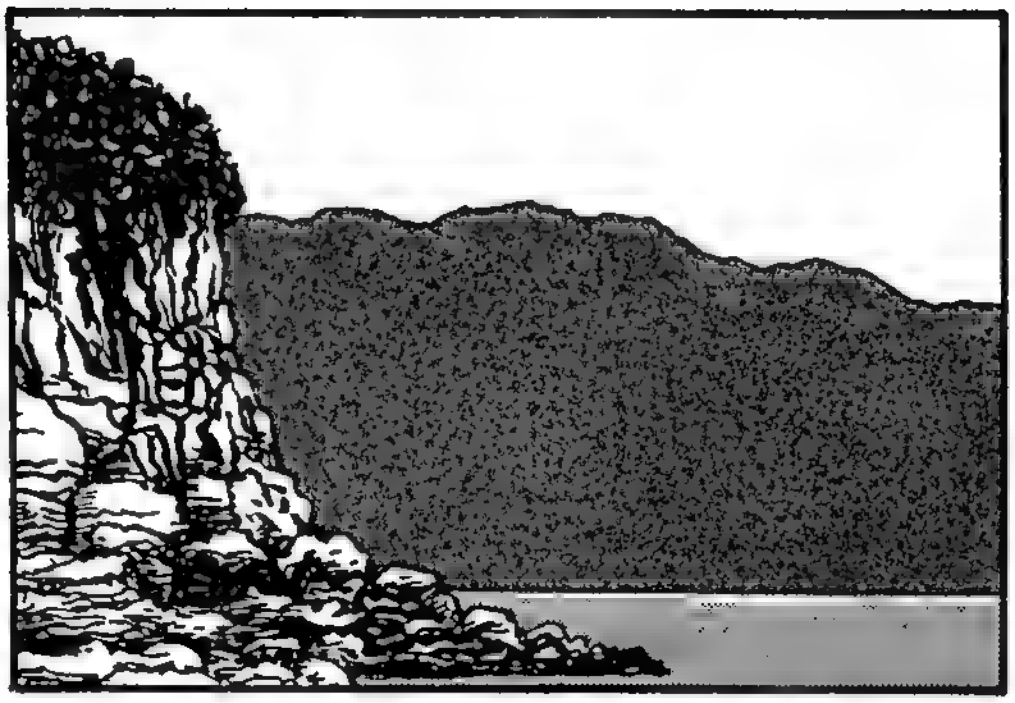
HOW ARE YOUR WOUNDS ?

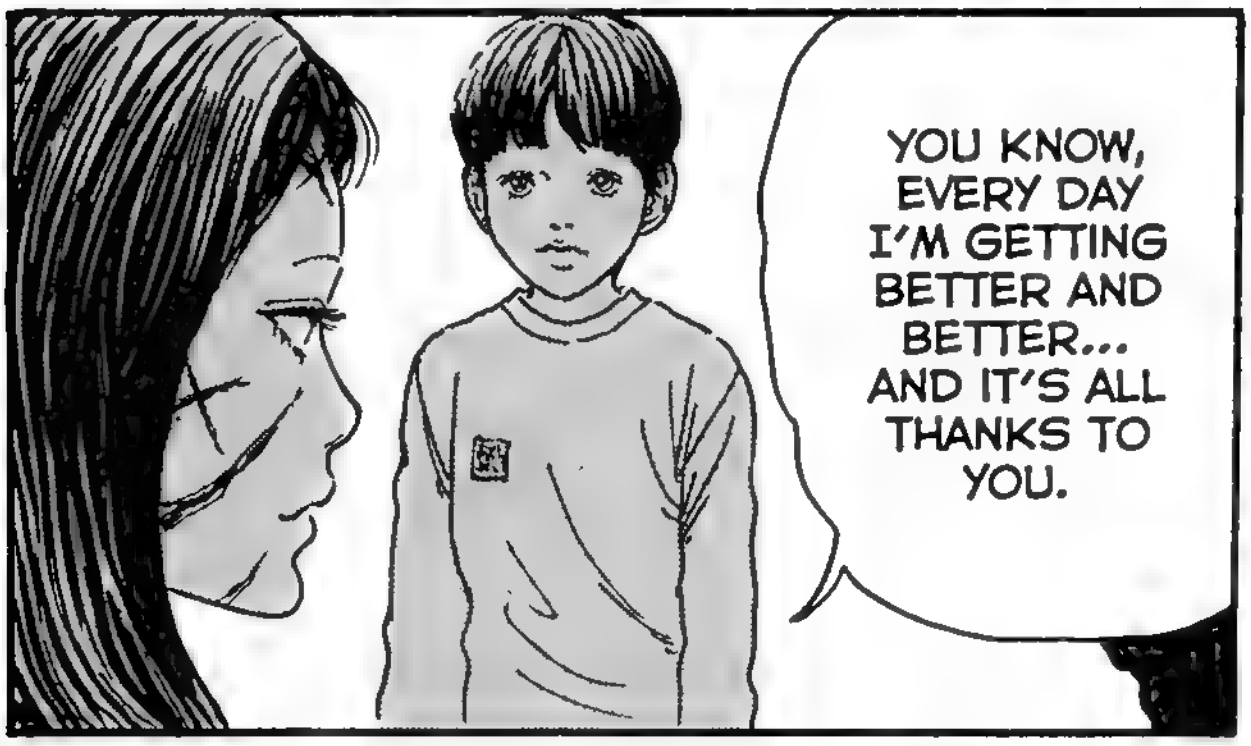
TOMIE...

SWEETIE, PLEASE... COME HERE AND COMFORT ME!!

AHH, IT HURTS!






YOU KNOW, EVERY DAY I'M GETTING BETTER AND BETTER... AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU.

COME HERE.

TEE HEE HEE.

LET ME GIVE YOU A THANK-YOU KISS.

IT FEELS LIKE I'M YOUR MOM NOW...

BUT THAT'S OKAY...

IT'S NOT REALLY IN FASHION...

NOW TELL ME, SWEETIE... IS THIS YOUR MOM'S DRESS?

SATORU... AREN'T YOU HUNGRY?

HE'S BEEN ACTING STRANGE LATELY.

HE HAS, HASN'T HE? EVERY DAY HE'S OFF TO THE BEACH, BUT NOT A WORD OF WHAT HE'S UP TO.

WHAT ABOUT THOSE NIGHT TERRORS HE'S BEEN HAVING?

DO YOU THINK SOMEONE'S PICKING ON HIM?

AND YOU KNOW, THE OTHER DAY, IT WAS MY DRESS HE TOOK.

HE'S BEEN TAKING FOOD FROM THE FRIDGE WITHOUT ASKING FIRST.

GLANCE GLANCE

Boutique Loire

THIEF!

DUCK

DUCK

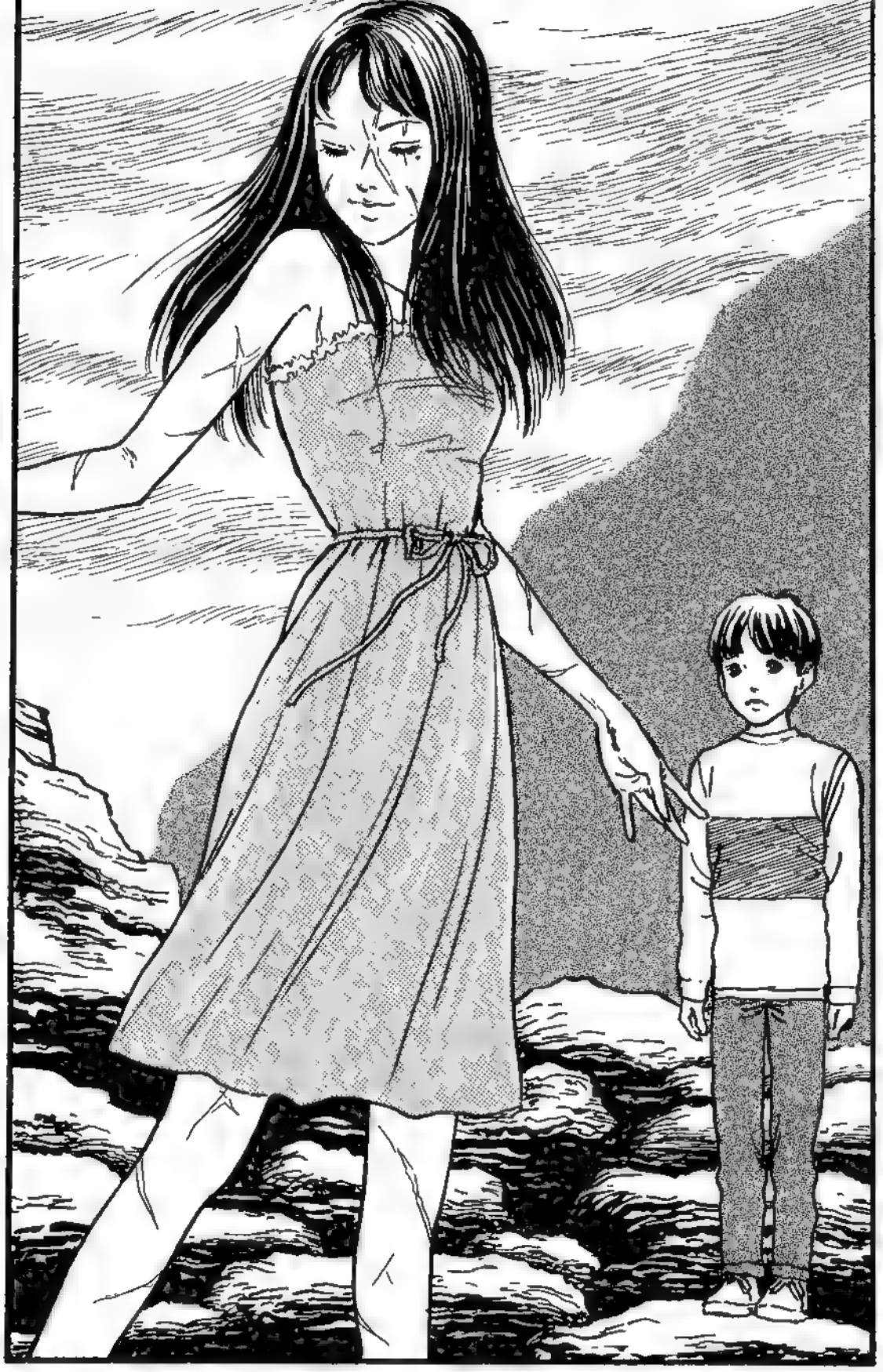
HEY, KID! STOP! COME BACK HERE!

HEUUH

SHRK

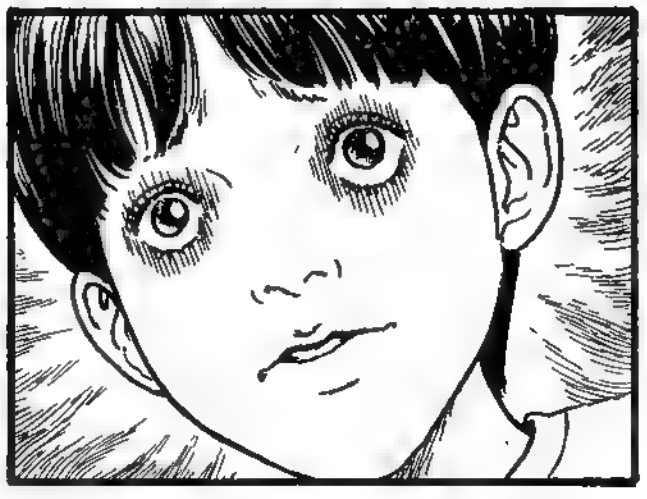
SHAA SHAA SHAA...

IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE RUNNING AROUND THE BEACH.
OH SWEETIE. IT'S JUST PERFECT.



HO HO HO.
TEE HEE HEE.

HOW ABOUT ... TAG.
COME ON. LET'S PLAY.



HO HO HO.

HO HO HO HO HO HO HO HO

HO HO HO HO HO

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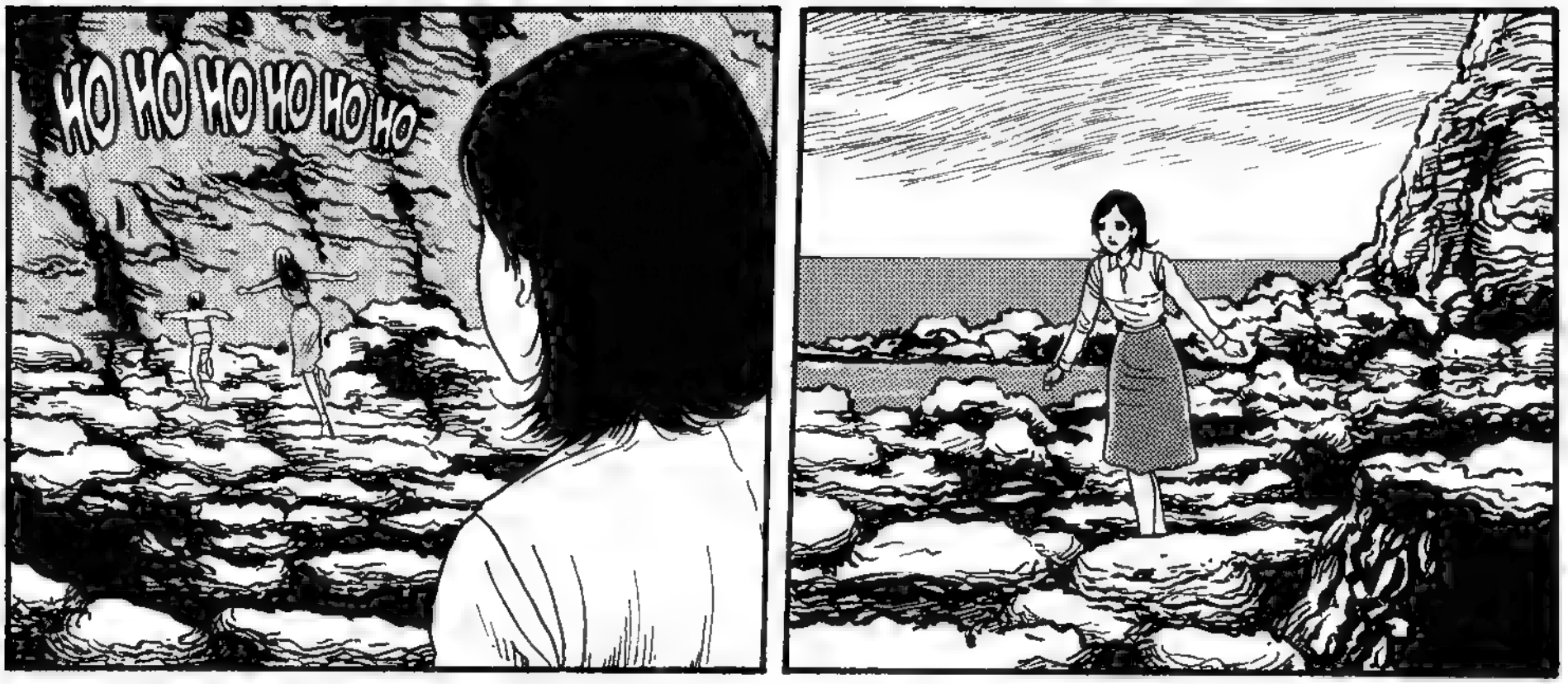
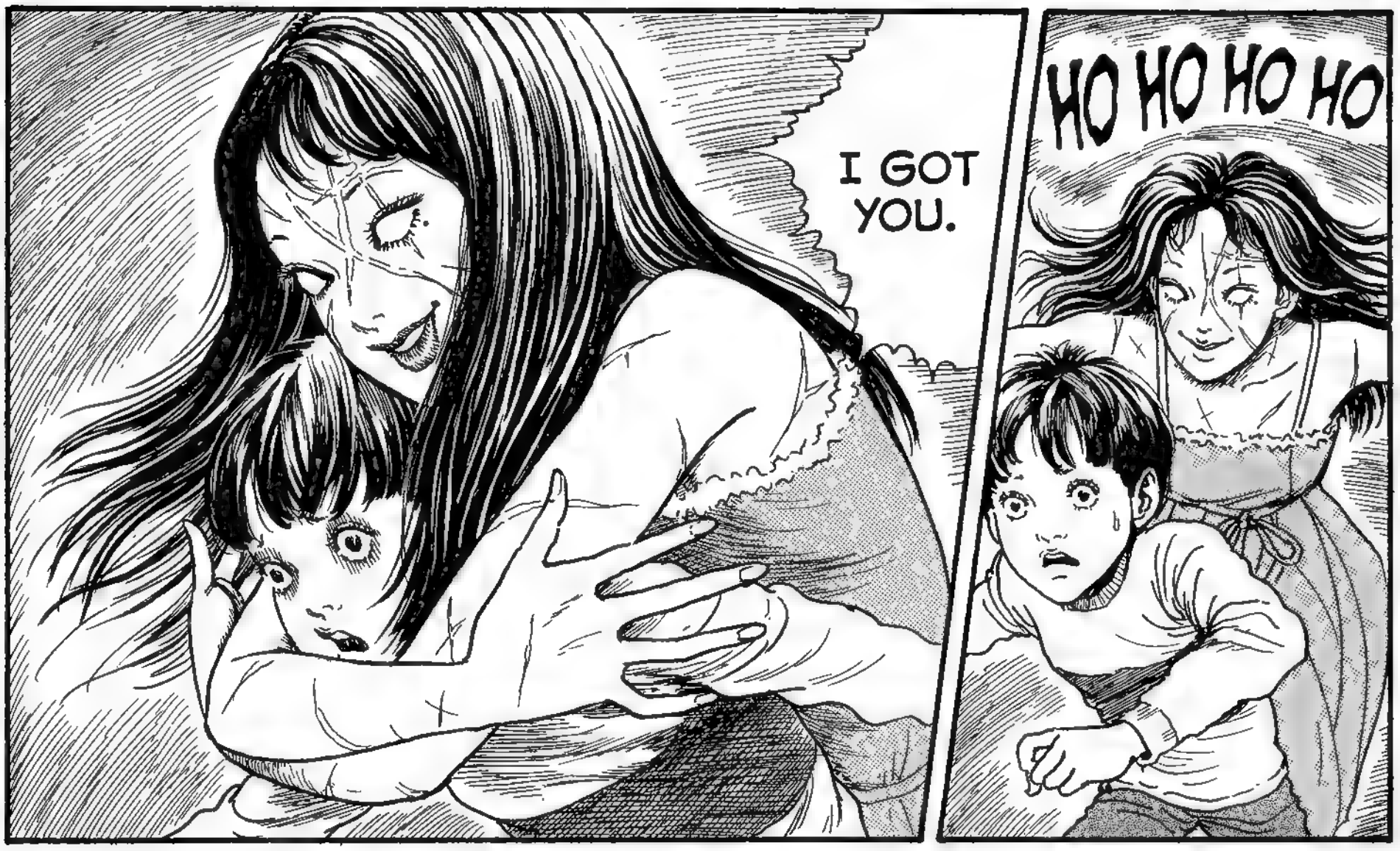
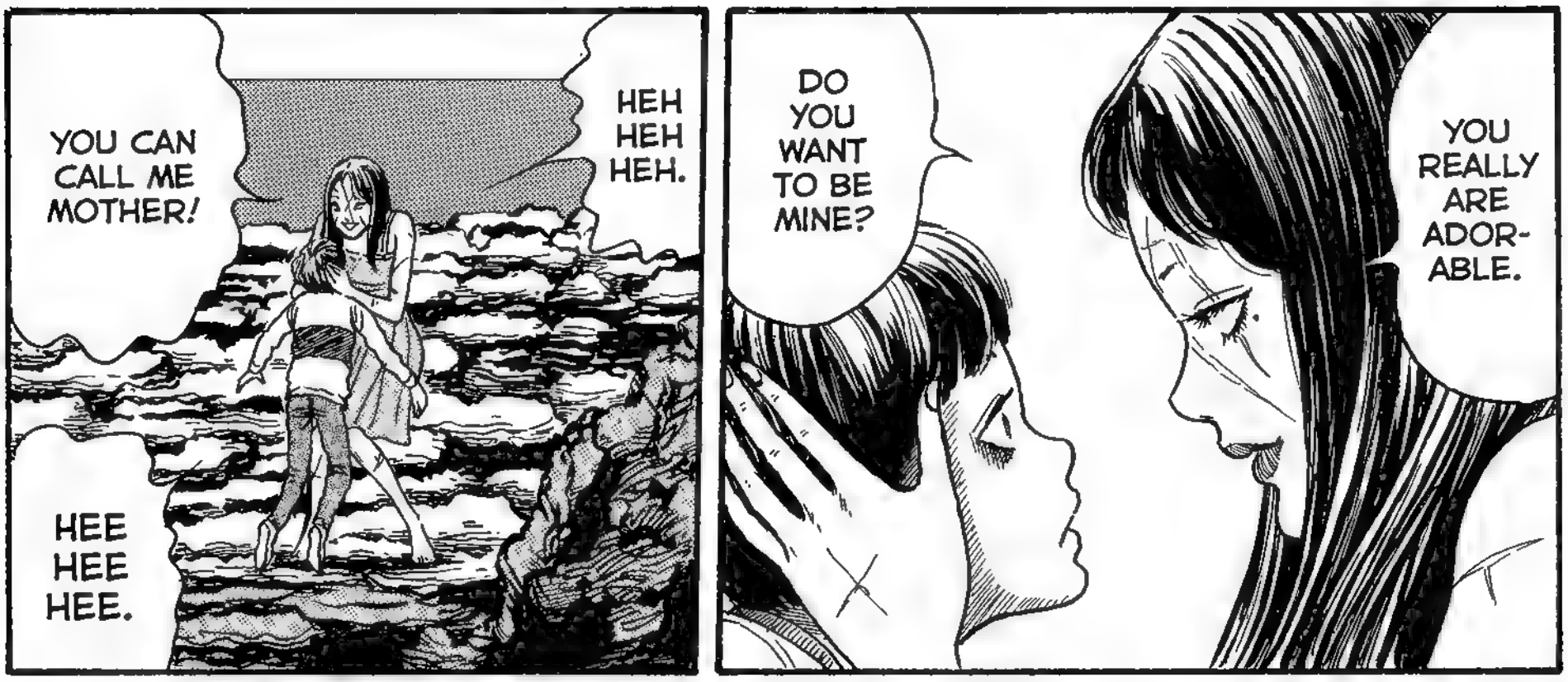

HO HO HO HO HO HO


I GOT YOU.
HO HO HO HO


YOU CAN CALL ME MOTHER!
HEH HEH HEH.
HEE HEE HEE.
DO YOU WANT TO BE MINE?
YOU REALLY ARE ADOR-ABLE.

YOU THERE! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

COME KISS MOMMY, SWEETIE.

HO HO HO.

SATORU !! COME HERE.

WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY SON?!

I AM HIS MOTHER... TOMIE.

ME?

FOR GOD'S SAKE, WHO ARE YOU?!

HE BEGGED ME TO BE HIS MOM. ISN'T THAT RIGHT, SWEETIE?

WELL... THAT'S WHAT HE CALLS ME.

WH... WHAT?!

LISTEN, SWEETIE... WHICH MOM DO YOU LIKE BETTER?

WHAT IN THE...

OH, COME ON, SATORU! LET'S GET OUT OF HERE...

I WANT YOU NEVER TO GO NEAR HER AGAIN!

...

MAYBE SHE WAS PLANNING TO KIDNAP HIM.

AND SHE CALLED HERSELF HIS MOTHER...

THAT WOMAN... WHO COULD SHE BE?

MRMM ...

YOUNG, CREEPY... SHE HAD CUT MARKS ALL OVER HER BODY...

IT'S BEEN EVERY NIGHT THIS WEEK...

BACK TO THE NIGHT TERRORS.

WUH... WAHH!

MMAA-AHHH!

WUA-AHH ...

I THINK IT'S HER DOING.

HE NEVER HAD PROBLEMS LIKE THIS BEFORE.

SATORU... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT TO GO NEAR THE BEACH...

From that point, the boy's behavior grew ever more erratic.

I HAVE TO SEE MY MOMMY...

MOM...

YOUR MOTHER IS RIGHT HERE! GET A GRIP ON YOURSELF!

GIVE ME THAT!

SATORU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH A KNIFE?!

SATORU!! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! COME ON! WAKE UP!

WHEN I GROW UP, I'M GONNA BE THE PILLAR OF MY COMMU-NITY.

I'M GONNA GO PLAY WITH MY REAL MOM.

HONEY... SATORU IS LOSING HIS MIND.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?

HEY, I'M HOME!

I'M BACK!

SATO-RU?

LOCKED HIM IN? AREN'T YOU GOING A LITTLE OVERBOARD?

HERE. LET ME TALK TO HIM.

I LOCKED HIM IN. HE KEPT WANTING TO GO TO THE BEACH ...

SAY AGAIN?

SHIK

SHIK

SHIK SHIK

SATORU!! WHAT ON EARTH...

HEY! SATORU !!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? SHE'S RIGHT ...

FLOOR

I WANT TO SEE MOMMY!

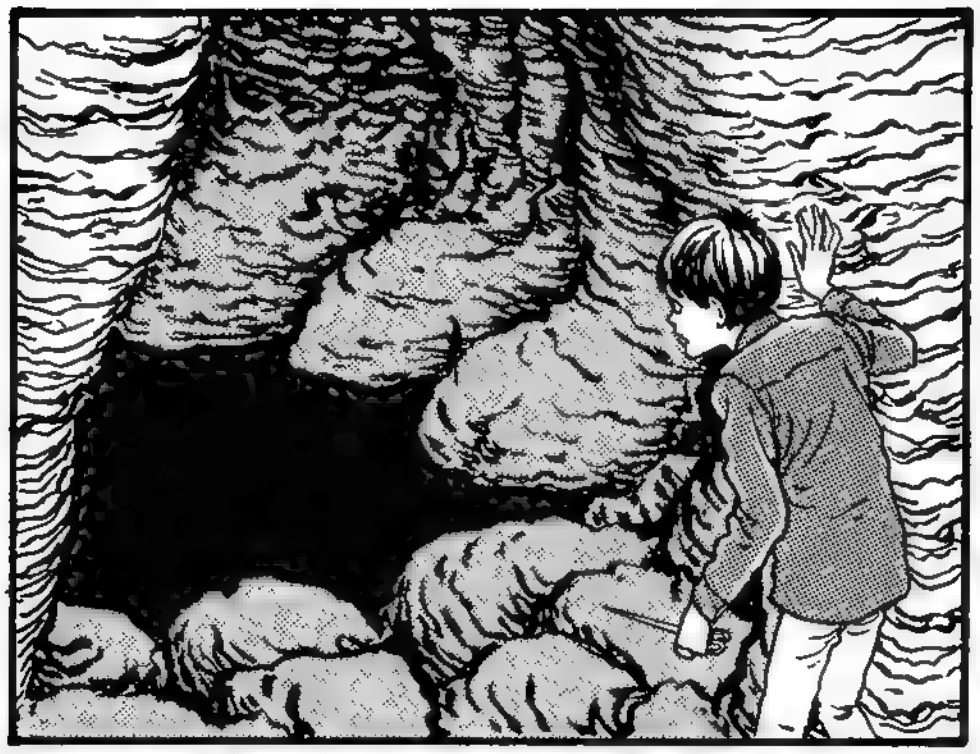
DAD! WHERE'S MY MOMMY?!

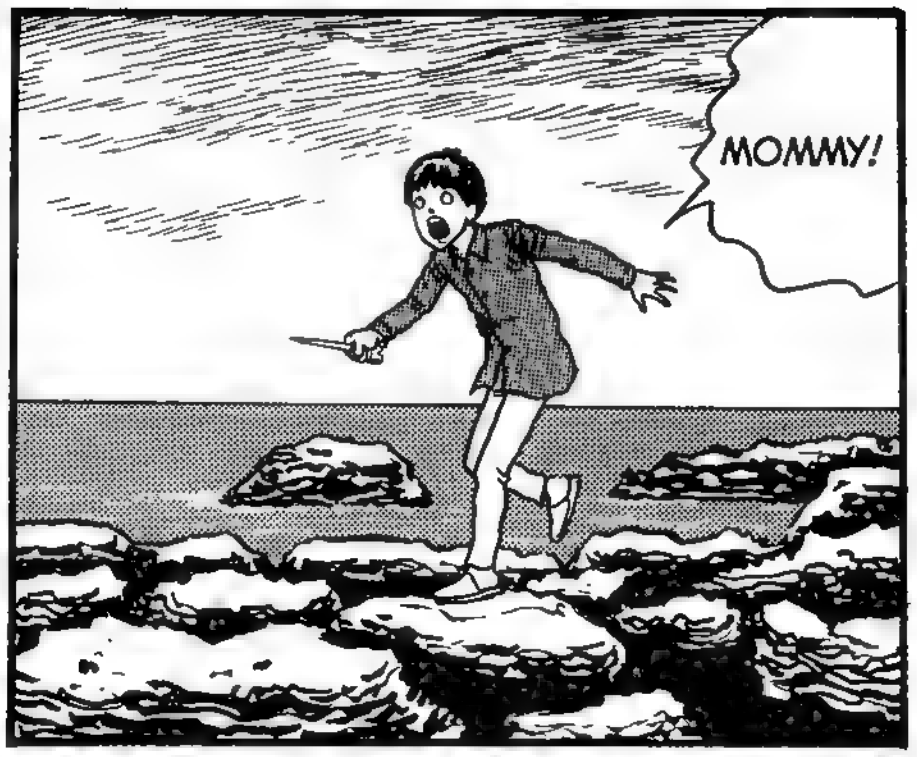
MOMMY!!

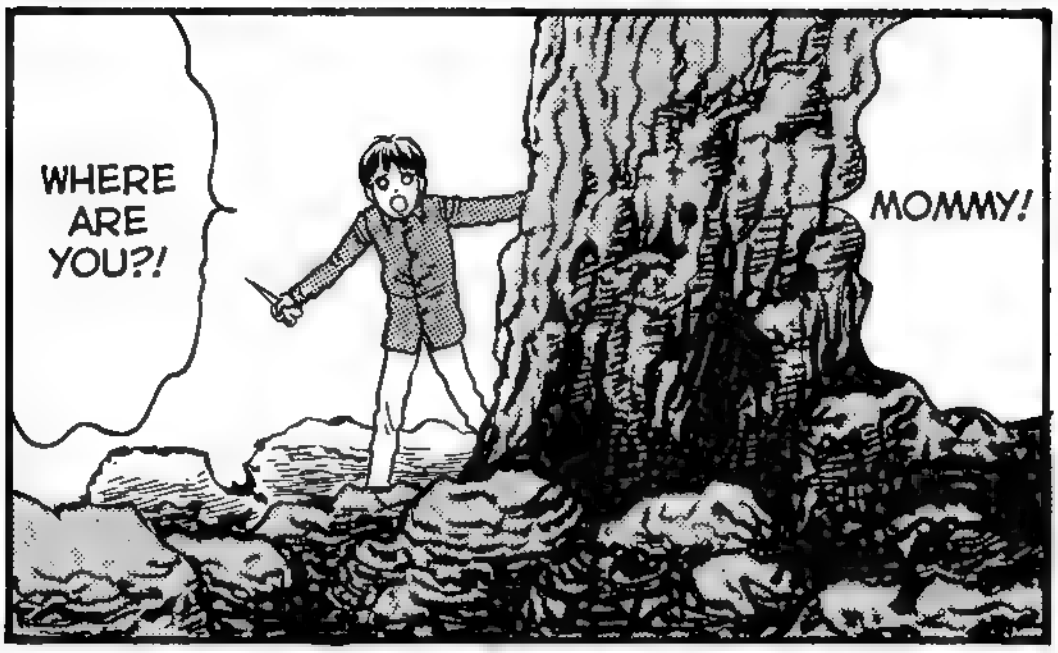
MOM!

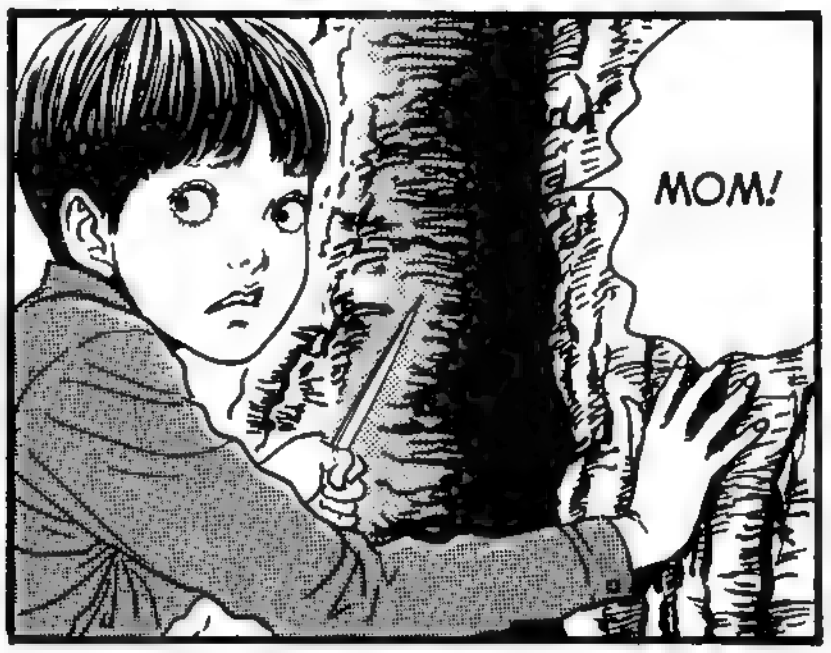
WOOSH

SHAA SHAA SHAA...




MOMMY!


WHERE ARE YOU?!
MOMMY!


MOM!

WHAT DO YOU CARE? JUST GIVE ME A NICE-TO-MEET-YOU KISS.

WHAT'S A PRETTY DAME LIKE YOU DOING IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?

?!

SHAA SHAA SHAA

FLOMP

COME ON, MOM.

LET'S PLAY.

HEY, MOM...

WAIT ABOUT TEN YEARS, KID.

HEH HEH HEH.

WHY WOULD YOU BE CARRYING SCISSORS? YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF CUTTING ME UP, ARE YOU?

WHAT ARE THOSE SCIS-SORS FOR?

GET OUT OF MY FACE, TWERP!

AND HONESTLY, WHAT DO YOU THINK I CARE FOR A BRAT LIKE YOU?

I'M NOT THAT OLD!

AND QUIT CALLING ME "MOM." ARE YOU TRYING TO INSULT ME?

HEE...

AH HA HA HA HA!

WAAHHH!

...except for one family.

HONEY...

The man's body was found later that same day. No one had a clue who did it...

SHAA SHAA SHAA...

HE CAME HOME DRENCHED IN BLOOD!

AND ON TV THEY SAID THE MURDERER USED SOMETHING LIKE... LIKE A PAIR OF SCISSORS.

HOW... HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?

HE DID IT. SATORU... HE MURDERED THE MAN.

URRNG... HE'S CALLING FOR THAT WOMAN.

MOMMY!

MOMMY!

SWEETIE...

SWEETIE...

UM.

MOMMY!

MOMMY!

IT'S FROM OUT-SIDE.

SSSUUU-Nooo

SSSHHH-Eeee

TH... THAT VOICE...

SWEETIE!

SHE'S HERE TO SEE ME!

IT'S MOMMY!

COME PLAY WITH MOTH-ER.

SWEETIE!

SHE'S THE ONE WHO DROVE SATORU OUT OF HIS MIND!

THAT'S THE WOMAN!

THAT'S HER!

WAIT!

THAT'S IT! IT'S TIME TO CALL THE POLICE!

MY LITTLE BOY.

SWEETIE...

...

SO BEAUTI-FUL...

I'LL GO HAVE A WORD WITH HER.

LEAVE IT TO ME.

SO WHAT SHOULD I...?

YOU DO THAT, AND EVERYONE WILL KNOW WHAT SATORU'S DONE.

...

...and was never seen again.

That night, the husband left his family...

By the time he came of age he was already a multiple felon.

In time he was found guilty and was executed by lethal injection.

...the boy...

As for...

MOSED MOSED

BOY / END

MOROMI

伊藤潤二

TOMIE
...

TOMIE, I LOVE YOU...

PLSSH

...

SPUSH

SWEET MEMORIES LACED WITH BIT-TERNESS ...

THAT FRAGRANCE THAT DRIFTS FROM YOUR FAIR SKIN... THAT BITING DEMEANOR...

YOUR SERENE EYES... YOUR SWEET VOICE...

PLOTCH

...EVERY PART OF YOU.

I HATE...

SPOSSH

SPASSH

HUFF

HUFF

KALONK

IT'S ME... ISHI-ZUKA.

HEY... IS THIS NAGA-OKA?

SO HOW'S TOMIE THESE DAYS?

OH, THAT'S JUST BRILLIANT.

NAGA-OKA... WILL YOU DO ME A FAVOR?

ISHIZUKA? WHAT DO YOU WANT? YOU KNOW THERE'S NOTHING LEFT BETWEEN US.

WELL, I KINDA KILLED HER.

YEAH, ABOUT HER. I...

...EXCUSE ME?

JUST COME OVER... PLEASE.

IT'S LIKE... DOG FOOD...

THIS... IS THIS TOMIE?!

GEH... W-WHAT THE SHIT?

NAGAOKA, YOU WOULD'VE DONE THE SAME.

NO! OH SHIT, MAN, I LOVED THIS GIRL!

I LOVED HER TOO MUCH. WAY TOO MUCH.

WHY DID YOU CALL ME?

ISHI-ZUKA...

...

I JUST SPARED YOU THE TROUBLE.

W-WHAT ?!

WHY? WHAT'S OVER THERE?

COME AND LOOK OVER HERE.

WEIRD? LIKE, HOW?

OH... YEAH. THERE'S SOMETHING WEIRD.

KRUNK

SPLORDGE

YOU ARE NOT SERI-OUS.

IT'S MORE TOMIE.

WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?

THERE'S PLENTY MORE.

AND SEE...

OKAY. YOU CAN STOP PULLING MY LEG. NO WAY THAT'S ALL ONE PERSON.

YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN.

...

HA...

DLUP PLUP BRUP SPUP

SPUP PLUP

I SAW IT HAPPEN.

IT'S MULTI-PLYING.

BUT IT WON'T STOP MULTIPLY-ING.

NAGAOKA... I WANTED TO PICK YOUR BRAIN.

SO I WORKED EVEN HARDER.

I SMASHED HER BONES AND MINCED HER TO JELLY.

EACH PIECE WAS TRYING TO REGENERATE...

AS I WAS MUTILATING HER BODY...

I SAW A HUNK OF FLESH GROW BIGGER.

WELL, IF IT WON'T STOP REGENERATING, WE'D BETTER DO SOMETHING...

OKAY... I'VE GOT AN IDEA. HERE'S THE PLAN...

WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?

THIS AROMA... IT SURE SMELLS LIKE HER.

WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?!

KIYOSHI! UNTIE US, BOY!

COME ON... FAST. HAUL THE MEAT TO THE TANK.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT... I FORGOT YOUR FAMILY PRODUCES SAKE.

SPLASH

SPLOP

NAH. A LITTLE BIT WON'T HURT.

WON'T IT AFFECT THE SAKE?

FLURSH

IT SCARES ME TO IMAGINE WHAT COULD HAPPEN.

WHO KNOWS. HOWEVER LONG IT TAKES TO STOP HER.

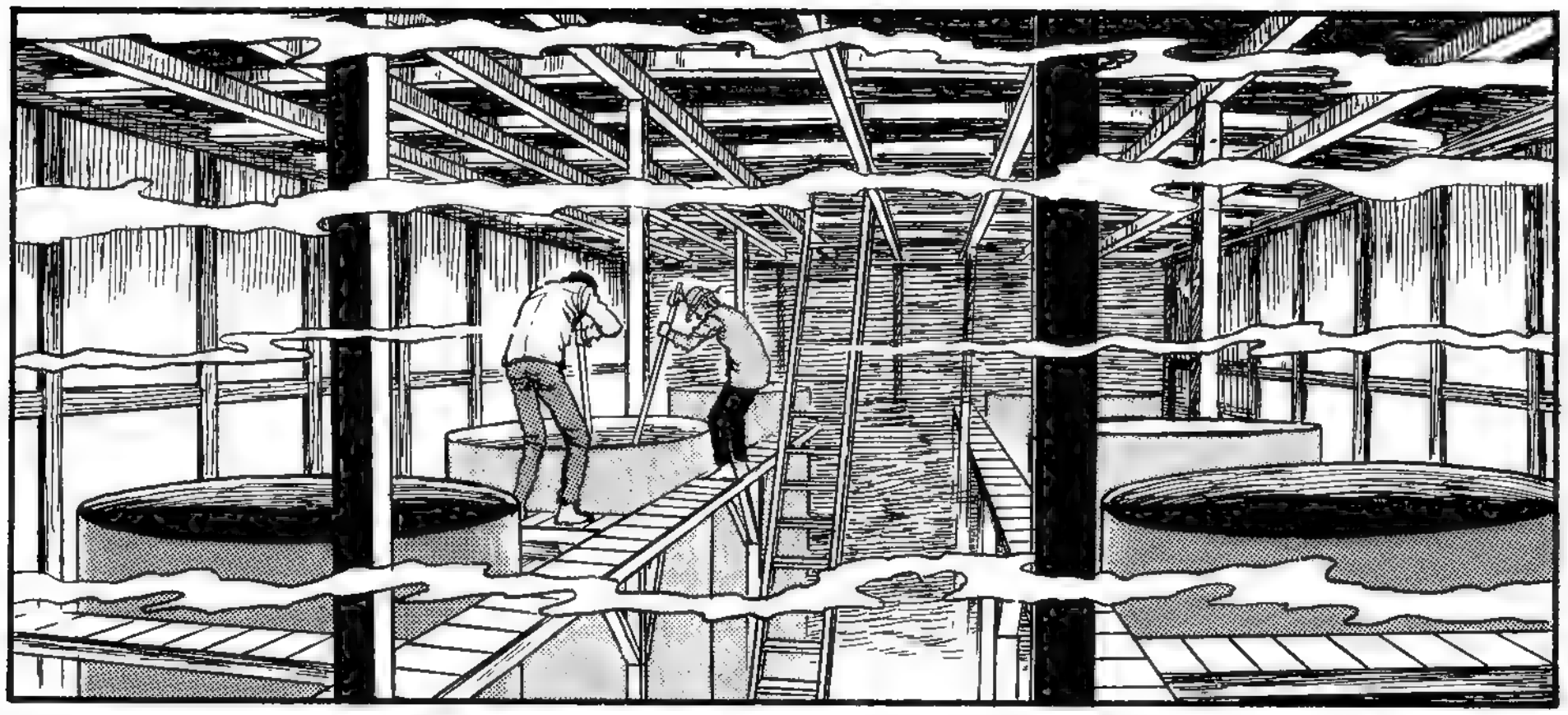
HOW LONG YOU THINK WE NEED TO STIR THIS?

HEY, ISHI-ZUKA...

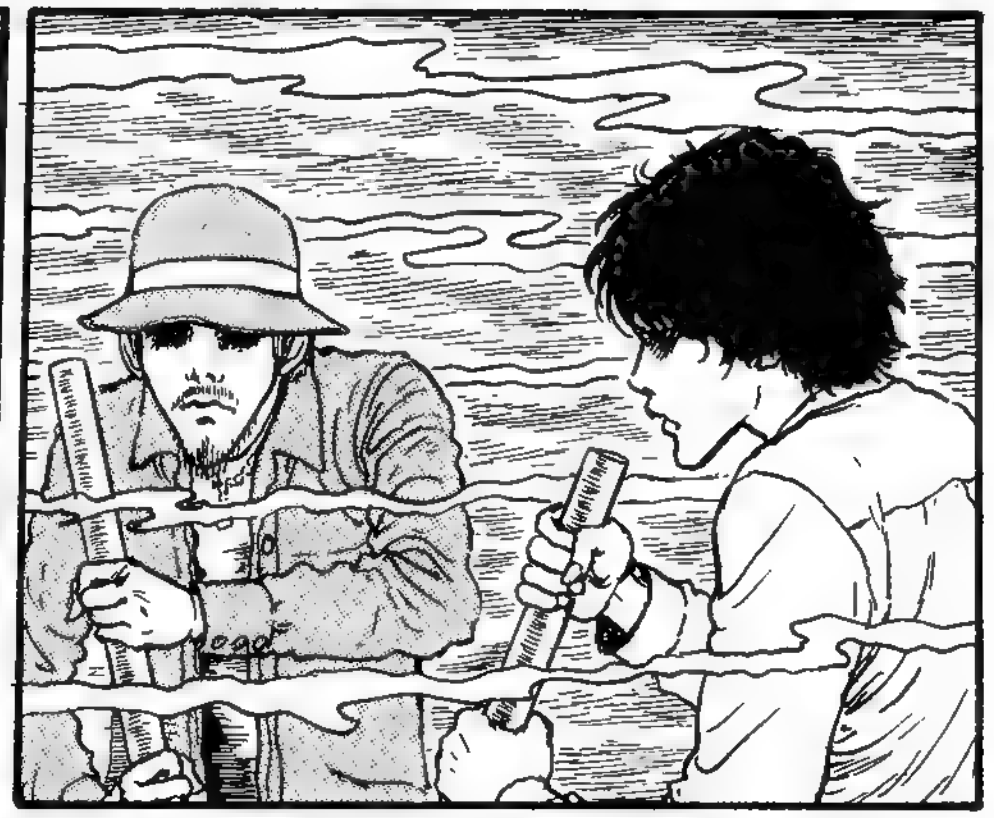
EVERY LITTLE BIT OF HER GROUND-UP FLESH. DO YOU SEE?

WELL, THINK ABOUT IT. EACH PIECE IS TRYING TO REGENERATE ITSELF.

WHAT THE HELL... COULD HAPPEN?



AHH...
HAQUOO
HAQUOO
SMELLS... LIKE TOMIE...



IT'S... IT'S TOO MUCH... TOMIE...
WITH SAKE IN THE MIX, THE AROMA IS BECOMING EVEN MORE PUNGENT...

...

571

AH!
AH!
AH!
POP
POP
AH!
AH!
AH!
AH!
AH!
POP
POP
IT IS HER VOICE.
AH!
AH!
IT... REMINDS ME OF TOMIE'S VOICE.
I MEAN, IT... SOUNDS JUST LIKE HER.
AH!
AH!
I THINK ...
YOU MEAN THE POPPING, RIGHT?
YEAH ...
HEY... YOU HEAR IT?

TOMIE.

TOMIE.

I LOVE YOU...

T... TOMIE ...

TOMIE!

TOMIE!

HUFF

HUFF

TOMIE.

TOMIE.

FLOSH

I GUESS WE'D BETTER SPLIT IT UP.

H... HEY... HASN'T IT GOTTEN A LOT MORE FULL?

HEY! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?!

HUFF HUFF

I'M TOTALLY BEAT...

HUFF HUFF

FORGOT ABOUT THE EMPLOY-EES...

WHOOPS.

AND WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?!

WHAT'S THE STORY HERE?!

OH... MR. PRESIDENT!! MA'AM!!

OH!

WHAT IS THIS STUFF?!

WHAT THE HECK IS GOING ON?

YOU... OH, IT'S YOU, YOUNG MASTER!

AH!

AH!

AH!

HUH... HEY!!

GET ME OUT OF THESE ROPES!!

MM... HRMM...

LET ME SEE WHAT YOU'RE DOING!

LET ME...

HOW RICH. HOW SMOOTH... I'VE NEVER TASTED *MOROMI** THIS GOOD BEFORE...

HMMM ...

GLUH GLUP

*MOROMI IS A FERMENTED MIXTURE OF RICE, WATER, KOJI AND YEAST.

LET'S MAKE US SOME *SEISHU.**

WHY NOT?

SHALL WE PRESS SOME?

* SEISHU: THE LEGAL NAME FOR SAKE, DIFFERENTIATING IT FROM OTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

I TELL YOU, THIS IS FIRST-RATE MOROMI.

HUMAN FLESH? WHAT ARE YOU BAB-BLING ABOUT?

YOU CAN MAKE SAKE FROM HUMAN FLESH?

SEISHU ...?

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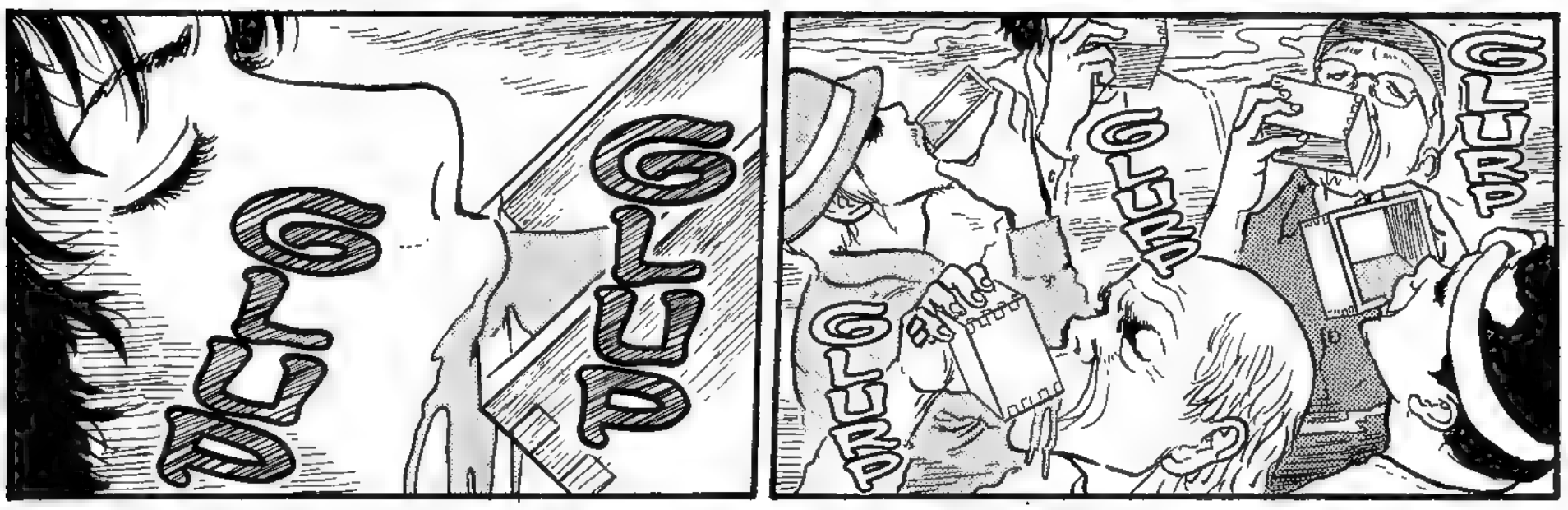
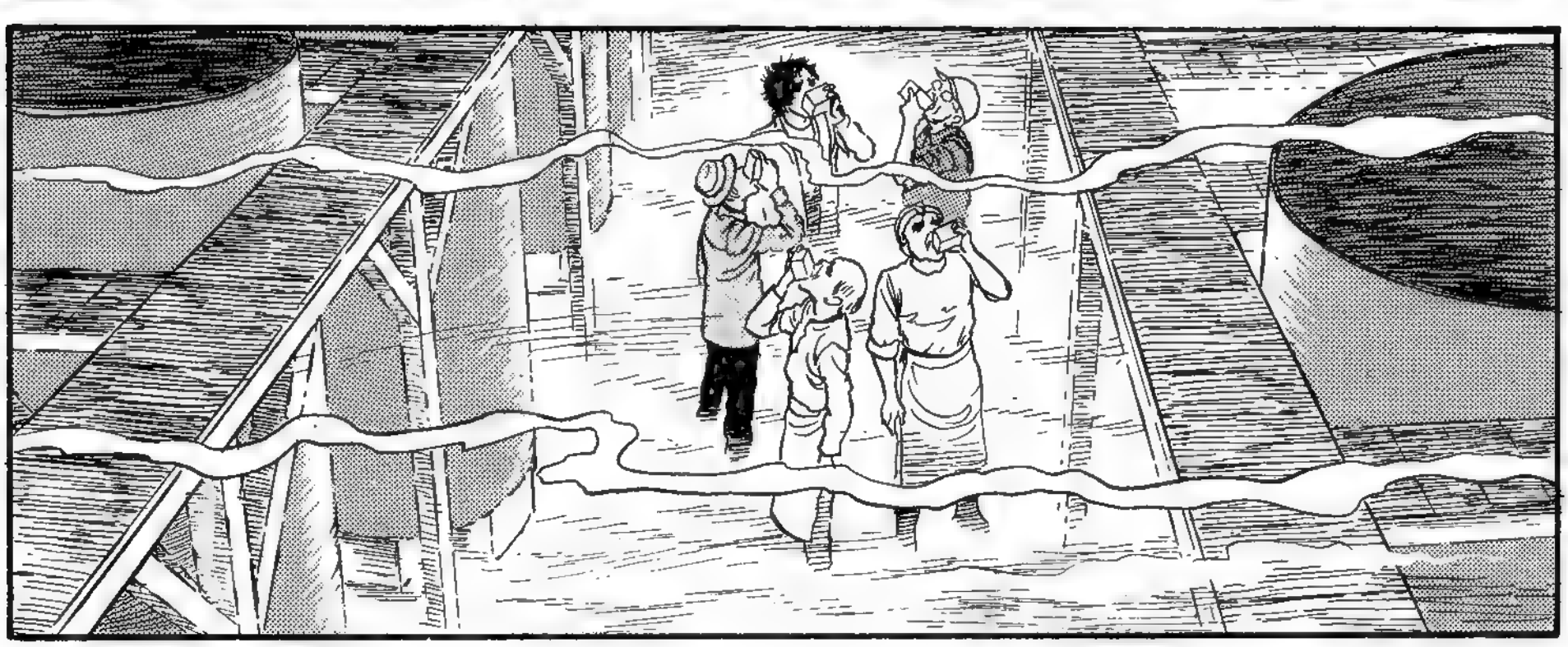

GLUP
GLUP
GLUP
GLUP
GLUP
GLUP



THIS IS THE MOST LUSCIOUS SAKE I'VE EVER TASTED!!

WHOOO ...

AH!

AH!

AH!

AH!

TOMIE
...

...

I
LOVE
YOU.

LOVE
...

ISHI-
ZUKA...

ISHI-
ZUKA.

IT'S
HER...

TOMIE
...

ISHI-
ZUKA...

TOMIE...
WHERE
ARE YOU?!

I
LOVE
YOU.

...

TOMIE
...

I
DO.

TOMIE!

I
LOVE
YOU.

TOMIE
!!

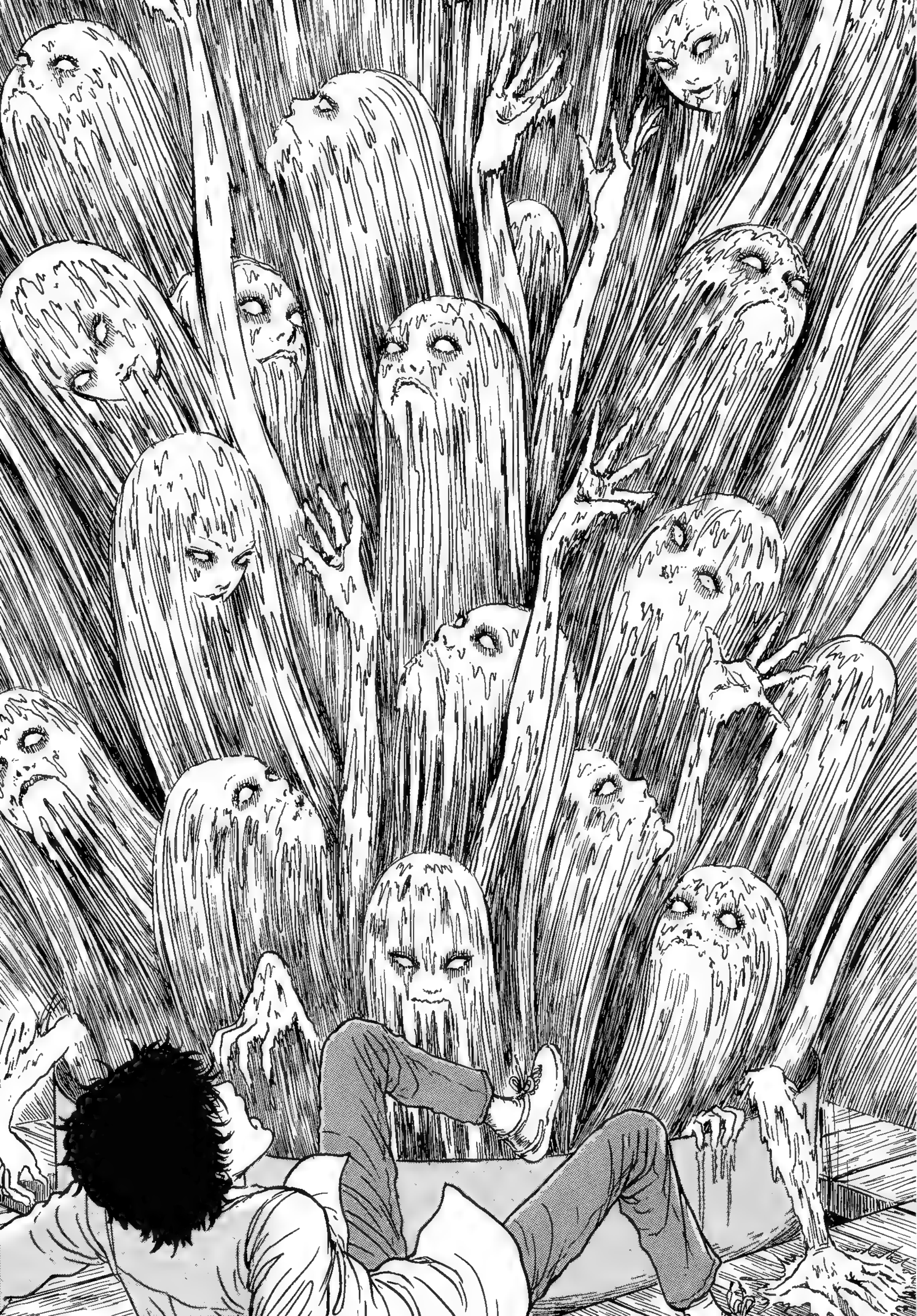
AH!

I LOVE YOU...

ISHI-
ZUKA...

AAH!

AH!



WHA-
AHH!

OH...

SD
APP

WUA-
AAH!

KYA
KYA...

KYA
...

KYA
...

BLURB

DRUPP

FW SSH A

T...
TOMIE.

ISHIZUKA
...

FORGIVE ME, TOMIE!!

TOMIE...

TOMIE!

SAKE NEVER MADE ME HALLUCI-NATE BEFORE.

WHAT A HOR-RIFIC VISION.

HOLY SMOKES.

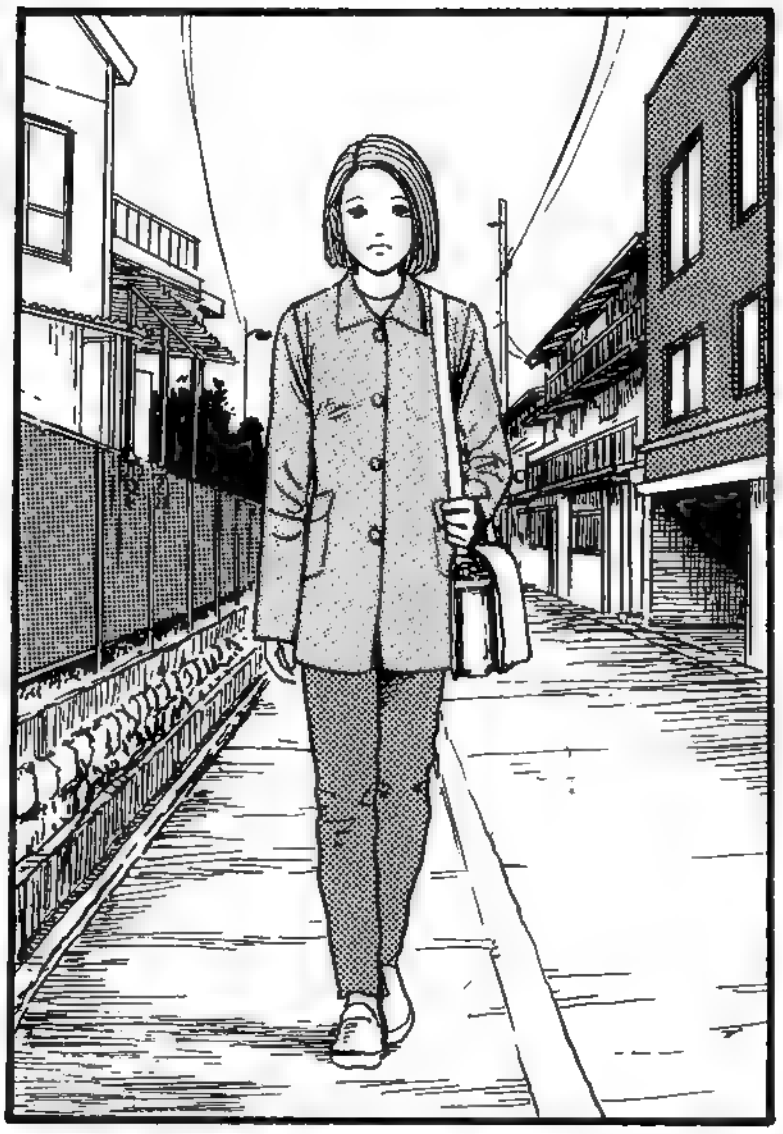
BUT THIS SAKE... IT'LL SELL LIKE NO OTHER!

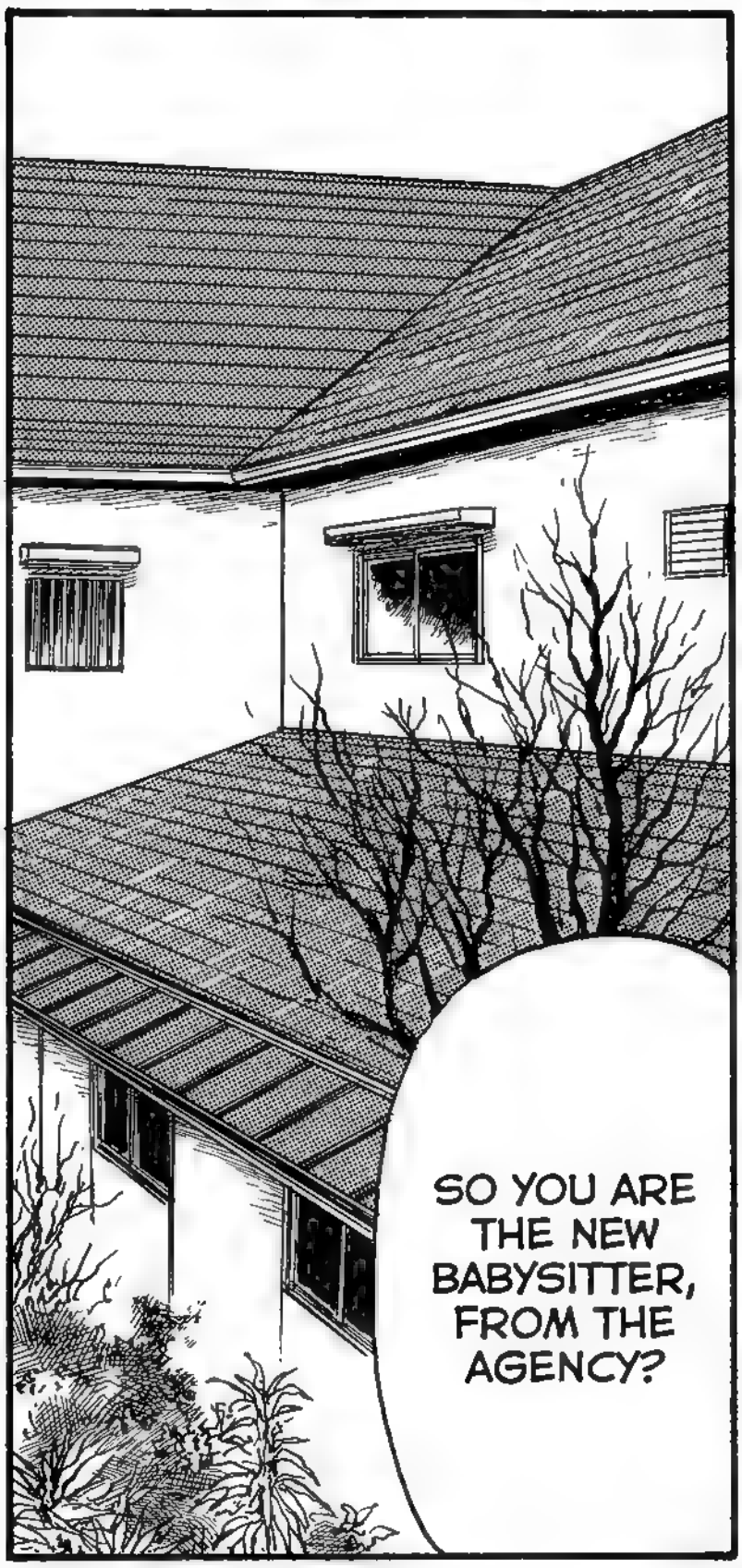
TOMIE... I LOVE YOU...

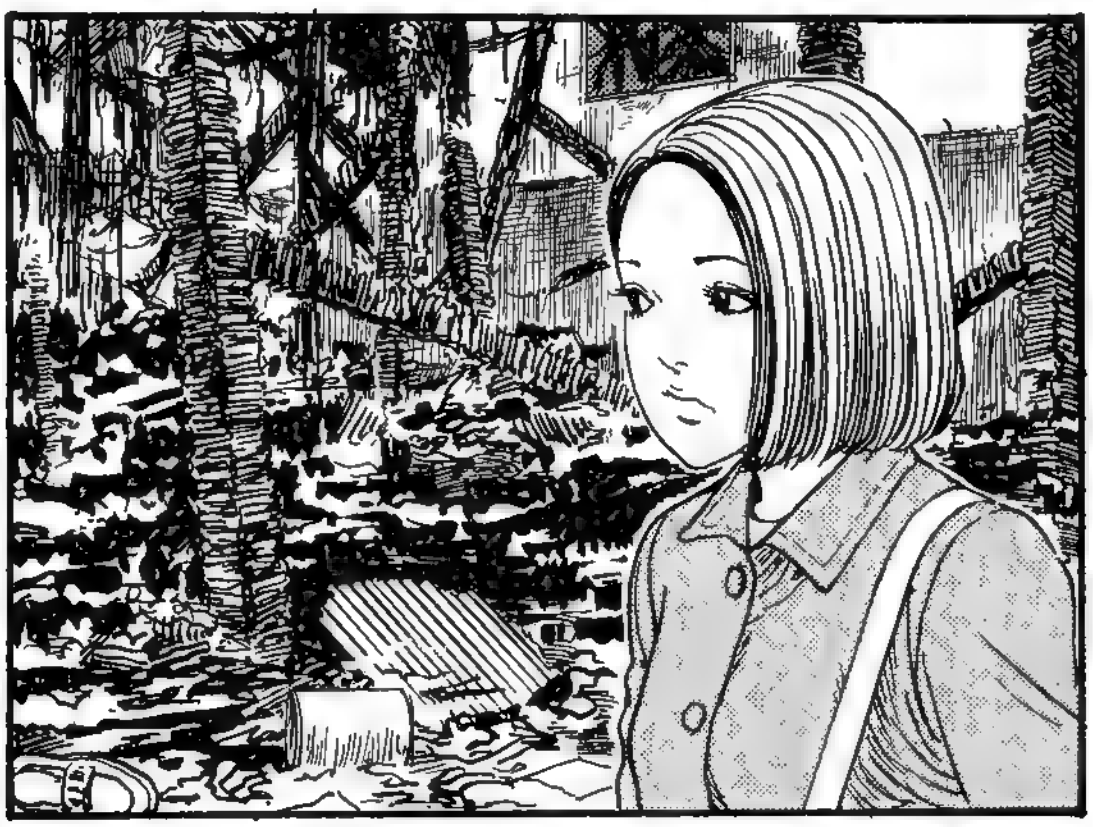
MOROMI / END

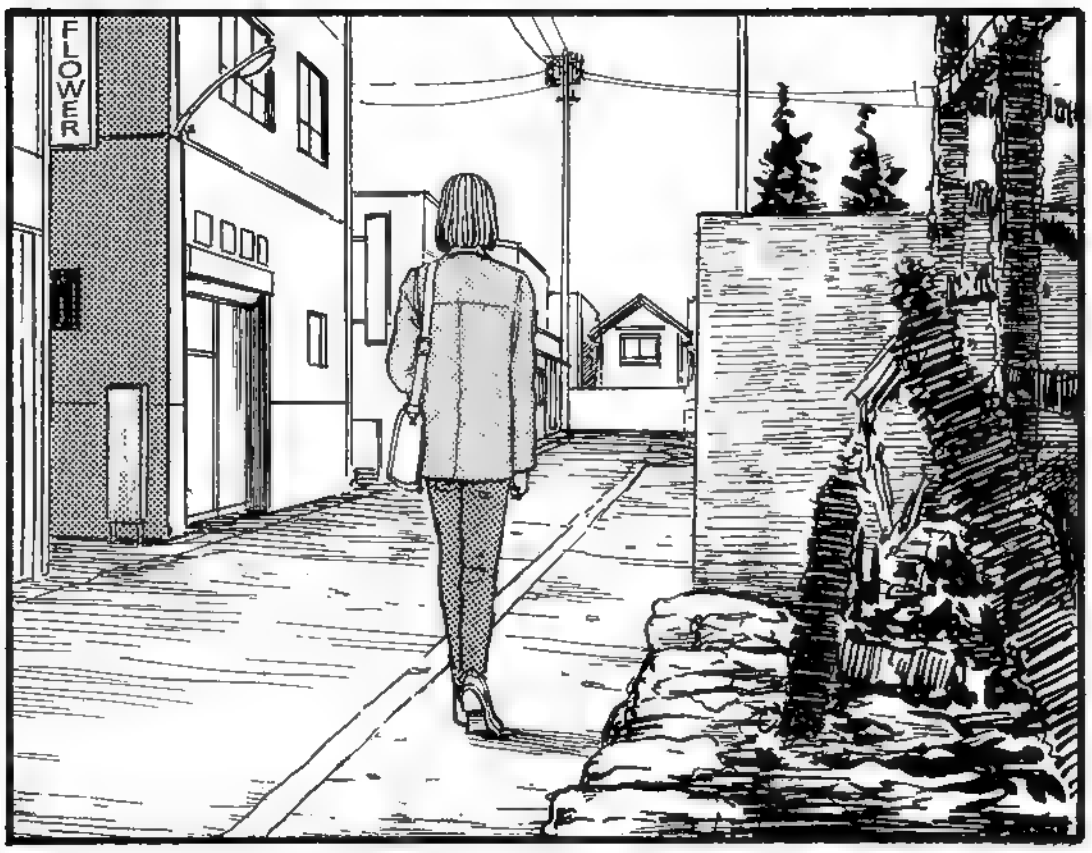
ベビーシッター

BABYSITTER




SO YOU ARE THE NEW BABYSITTER, FROM THE AGENCY?




FLOWER

SHE CER-TAINLY DOES.

SHE SEEMS LIKE A SWEET GIRL, DON'T YOU THINK SO, DARLING?

MY NAME'S ERITA.

THAT'S RIGHT. NICE TO MEET YOU.

HIYA, MARINA.

YOU'VE GOT A NICE LADY THIS TIME.

WE LUCKED OUT, MARINA.

ER... SURE.

ERITA, LET ME... SHOW YOU THE BABY'S ROOM.

FWUP

IRON BARS...

IT'S LIKE A PRISON CELL.

THIS IS THE NURSERY.

WE'RE ENTRUSTING YOU WITH MARINA'S SAFETY.

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY PROBLEMS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF LATE. YOU MAY HAVE SEEN SEVERAL HOMES THAT HAVE BEEN LOST TO ARSON.

DON'T WORRY.

ERITA, WE'RE GOING OUT TONIGHT. SO PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF HER.

IT'S TIME TO GO NIGHT-NIGHT, MARINA.

EHRM... YES, MA'AM.

CHAK

KACHA

FWAM

HM?

CIAO, THEN!

WELL, OUR DARLING CAN BE... SOMETHING OF A HANDFUL.

WHAT ?

JUST INSURANCE, MY DEAR. SITTERS HAVE A HABIT OF RUNNING OUT ON US.

WHAT'S WITH THE LOCK?

ER... EXCUSE ME...

WOO-OOO.

GA-GOOO.

OH, COME ON! JUST LOOK!

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

YEEEK !!

TH-THUMP

SHE'S ALWAYS SO HAPPY WHEN WE DRESS HER IN RED.

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK, WON'T YOU? ISN'T SHE JUST ADOR-ABLE?

BUT SHE'S A POOR LITTLE THING. WE FOUND HER LEFT ALL ALONE AT OUR DOOR-STEP.

HEH HEH... UN-USUAL, ISN'T SHE?

OH YES. IF SHE CRIES, BE SURE TO HOLD HER BY THE WINDOW.

A WHILE ?

YOU CAN FIND YOURS IN THE FRIDGE. IT SHOULD LAST YOU A WHILE.

ANYWAY, THERE'S PLENTY OF BABY FOOD IN THE CUPBOARD.

GAH-WOO!

WE'LL BE OUT UNTIL LATE.

ALL RIGHT, THEN.

YOU CAN'T !!

WAIT, NO!

WEE-AAA.

TH-THUMP

SLT

BA-GUH.

THEY CALL THIS A BABY?

IT'S LIKE A HEART SPROUTED ITS OWN FACE.

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

...

GWEEE!

P-KLUM

BABY BISCUIT

MILK

HOWEVER SHE LOOKS, SHE'S STILL A BABY...

UM... WELL...

WUUUU

?

WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?

MWA-AHHH!

IT'S A FIRE.

MORE ARSON?

WUUUU

WAAHHH!

NGA-AAH-AH!

WUU

WUUA-AHH!

WUH-WAHHH!

I... I CAN'T DO IT.

NGH.

WAH-WAHH!

WHY DIDN'T YOU DO WHAT I TOLD YOU?!

YOU DIDN'T HOLD HER BY THE WINDOW, DID YOU?!

WAAHHH WAAHHH

Later that night...

WAAA

EVEN IF IT TAKES YOU ALL NIGHT!

DON'T BE ABSURD. YOU WILL STAY UNTIL SHE STOPS CRYING.

I... MAY I LEAVE FOR TODAY?

WAAA

KLAK

ERITA, WE'LL BE OUT LATE AGAIN TONIGHT. PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF MARINA, OKAY?

BLA-BOOO.

RZZZ

MARINA... TIME FOR NUM-NUMS...

ACK!

FOO!

GRUP

KWA KAKA !

KYA !

I... I... WHAT DID I DO...?

GUK... GAK...

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

AAH!

WUA-
AHHH!

WUUUU

シティホテル

WAHHH!

WAHHH!

WAHHH!

WAHHH!

WAA-
AHH!

WUH-
WAHH
!

NGAA-
AHH!

WUUUUUUU

SLT

KYA
KYA
KYA

KYA
KYA!

THAT'S
SURE...
A BIG
FIRE.

MOMMY AND DADDY DIDN'T COME HOME LAST NIGHT.

I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED.

CAUGHT RED-HANDED, YOU KNOW.

THAT'S RIGHT, THEY LIVED RIGHT HERE.

CAN'T DO ANY HARM FROM JAIL.

GUESS OUR WORRIES ARE OVER, THEN.

YEAH. SERIAL ARSONISTS, THEY WERE.

WHAT, YOU MEAN ALL THE FIRES?

TH-THUMP TH-THUMP

YOUR DADDY AND MOMMY WON'T BE BACK FOR A WHILE... BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

OH MY GOD. WHAT DO I DO NOW?

HOW PATHET-IC.

AND AFTER I TOLD THEM TO DO A GOOD JOB.

THOSE SCREW-UPS...

SHEESH.

DID YOU JUST TALK?

MARINA... DID YOU...

REMEM-BER THAT!

I AM TOMIE.

WHO'S MARINA?

SURE ISN'T ME.

CAN'T WE DO SOMETHING FUN?!

URGH! I'M SO BORED!

TH-THUMP

TH-THUMP

OH.

SLAP

YOU... WANT ME TO HOLD YOU?

YOU CAN BE THE HORSE.

I'VE GOT IT. LET'S PLAY HORSEY.

FASTER! GIDDYAP!

HEH HEH HEH.

SCRAD

TH-THUMP

AH HA HA HA!

TH-THUMP

YOUR BODY IS GROWING FAST, TOO.

TOMIE, YOU'VE GOTTEN QUITE HEAVY.

THIS IS STUPID.

NEEEIGH!

COME ON, START A FIRE!

OH, FORGET IT! JUST SHOW ME SOMETHING RED!

UGH. YOU CAN HAVE THE BABY FOOD.

WELL... WOULD YOU LIKE SOME DINNER, THEN?

OH, I QUIT! I'M TIRED OF PLAYING THE BABY.

HEAVY?! ARE YOU CALLING ME FAT?

DO YOUR BEST AND SHOW ME.

THEN FIND SOME-THING ELSE THAT'S RED.

WE'RE LOCKED UP IN HERE.

THAT'S NOT POS-SIBLE.

HURRY!

NOW!!

LET ME SEE IT!

I KNOW YOU'VE GOT SOME-THING CRIMSON.

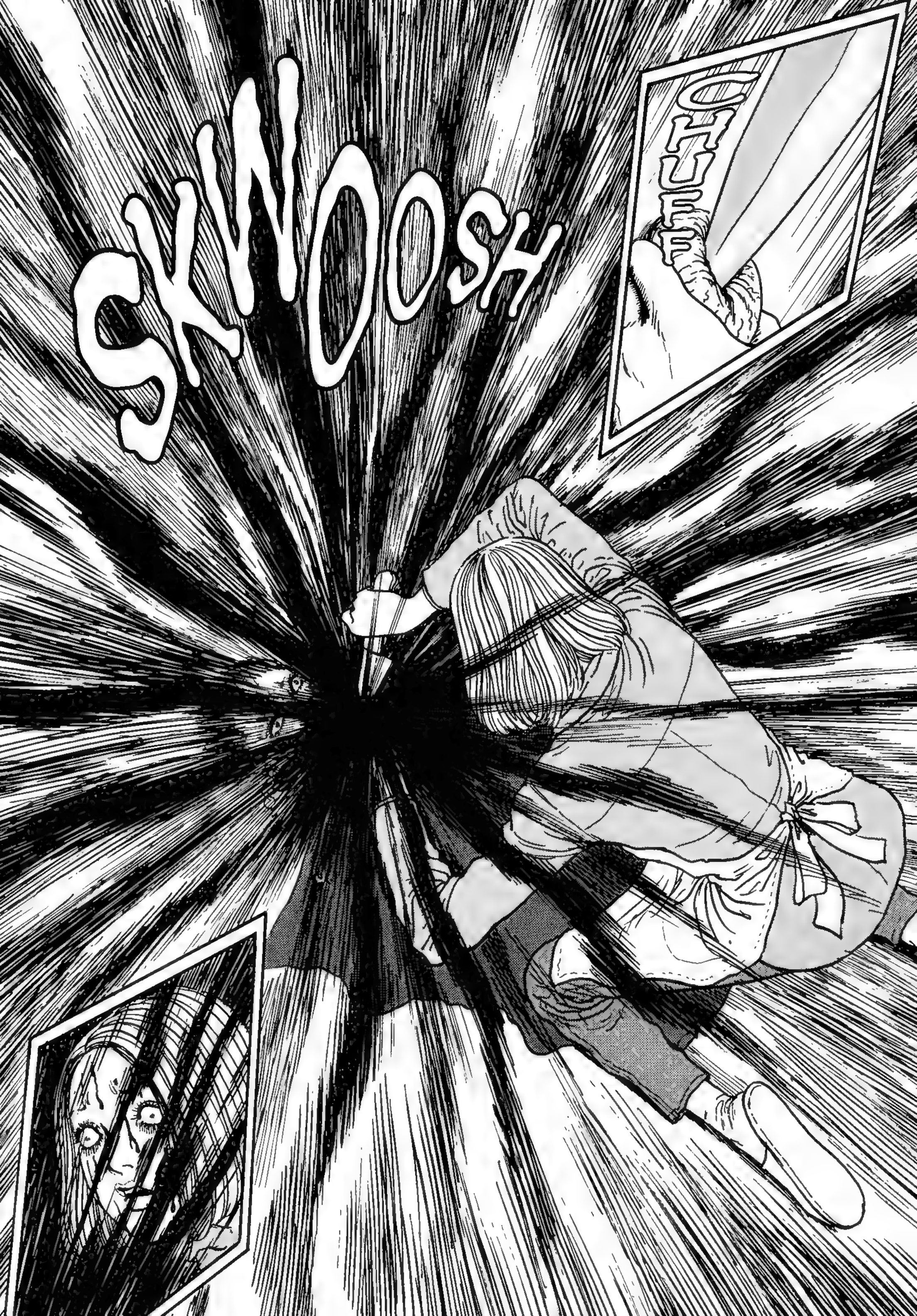
AAA-AHHH !!

AH ...

KACHAK

AAHH!

THUMP
AAHH !!
AH...
AH ...
AHH ...
SHOW ME SOMETHING BRIGHTER, PRETTIER. SOMETHING BURNING RED.
IT'S NOT VERY INTER-ESTING.
HMM... YOUR BLOOD ...
TH-THUMP
AA-AHHH !!
TH-THUMP
TH-THUMP


SKWOOSH
CHUFF

BEAUTI-
FUL...

SUCH
LOVELY,
BURNING
RED.

MY
BLOOD...

IT IS...
IT
SURE IS
PRETTY.

BABYSITTER / END

ある集団
GATHERING

I CAN'T IMAGINE WATCHING SOMEONE I LOVE WITHER AWAY LIKE THAT...

UME-HARA.

I KNOW IT MUST BE TOUGH FOR YOU...

AND IT'S NOT LIKE I'LL EVER REALLY LOSE NAOKO.

THERE'S ONLY SO MUCH GRIEF IN THE WORLD.

IT'S TRUE... BUT...

HMM...

AND IN MY DREAMS SHE GLOWS BRIGHT, LIKE THE SUN.

I DREAM ABOUT HER A LOT.

ERH... YEAH.

AND WHAT WAS IT YOU WANTED TO TALK ABOUT?

OH, YEAH?

YOU'RE GETTING TO LOOK KIND OF SCRAWNY. EVERYTHING OKAY?

ANYWAY, MIYAGAWA, WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE DEPRESSED, SO I THOUGHT I'D INVITE YOU TO A GATHERING.

A GATH-ERING?

YOU KNOW, FOR FUN.

YEAH, COME CHECK IT OUT.

IT'S IN HERE.

514

...

Tomie. Tomie, my love!

I love you. Tomie love.

Notice me!

TOMIE
!!
KACHAK

TOMIE!

TOMIE!

TOMIE!

WHY CAN'T I KISS HER?

MURMUR

I'M SO... JEAL-OUS.

YOU LOOK PRETTIER THAN EVER TODAY.

TOMIE...

DON'T FREAK OUT, GUYS.

I ONLY ALLOW IT BECAUSE THEY LOOK A LITTLE MORE PRESENTABLE THAN THE REST OF YOU.

...

LISTEN.

NO MORE OF THOSE, PLEASE!

WHAT THE... CAVIAR AND FOIE GRAS AGAIN?

I WANT SOME-THING ELSE!

YOUR DINNER IS WAITING.

TOMIE.

TRA TRAT

WHO'S THE PRINCESS?

MIYA-GAWA, WHAT KIND OF GATH-ERING IS THIS?

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, BRING 'EM HERE AND I'LL REWARD YOU PERSONALLY.

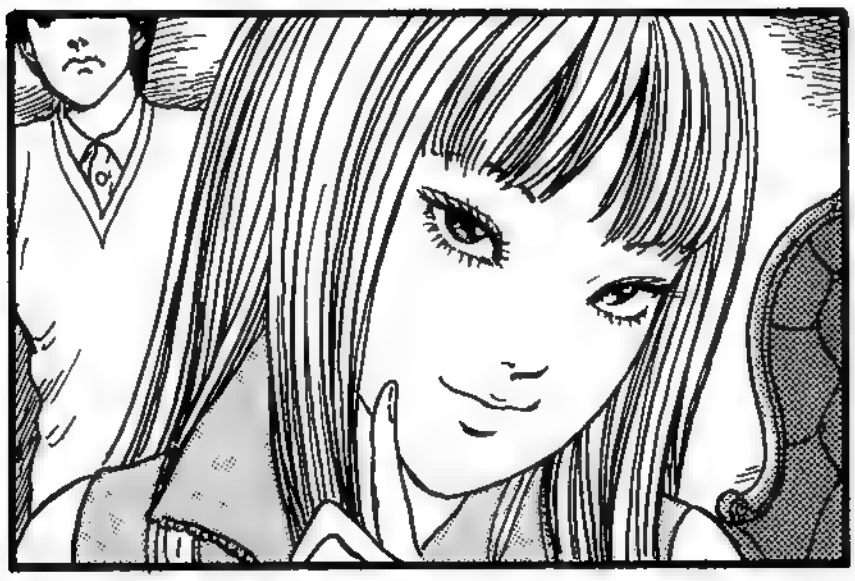
DON'T YOU GUYS HAVE ANY COOL FRIENDS?

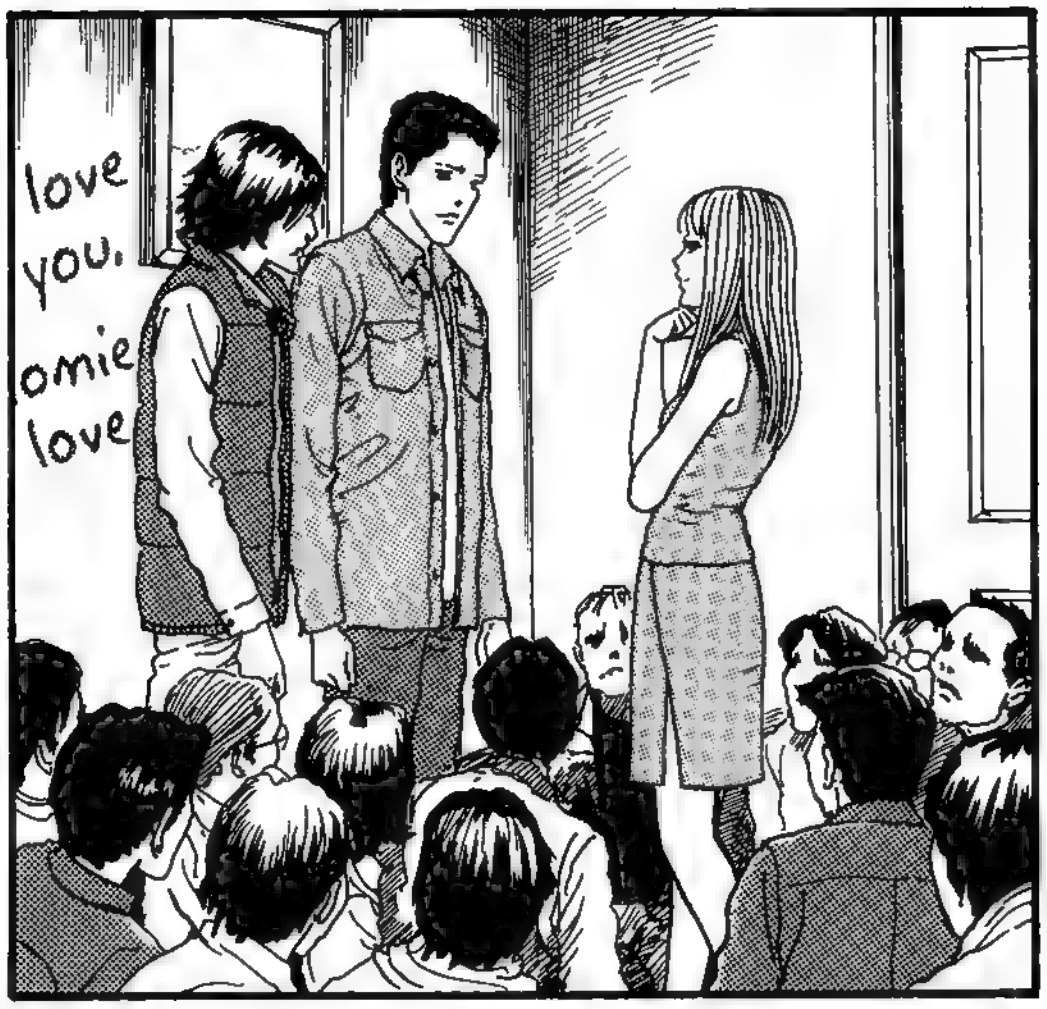
HMPH... IS THERE A STUD IN THE HOUSE? ANYWHERE?

MIYA-GAWA...

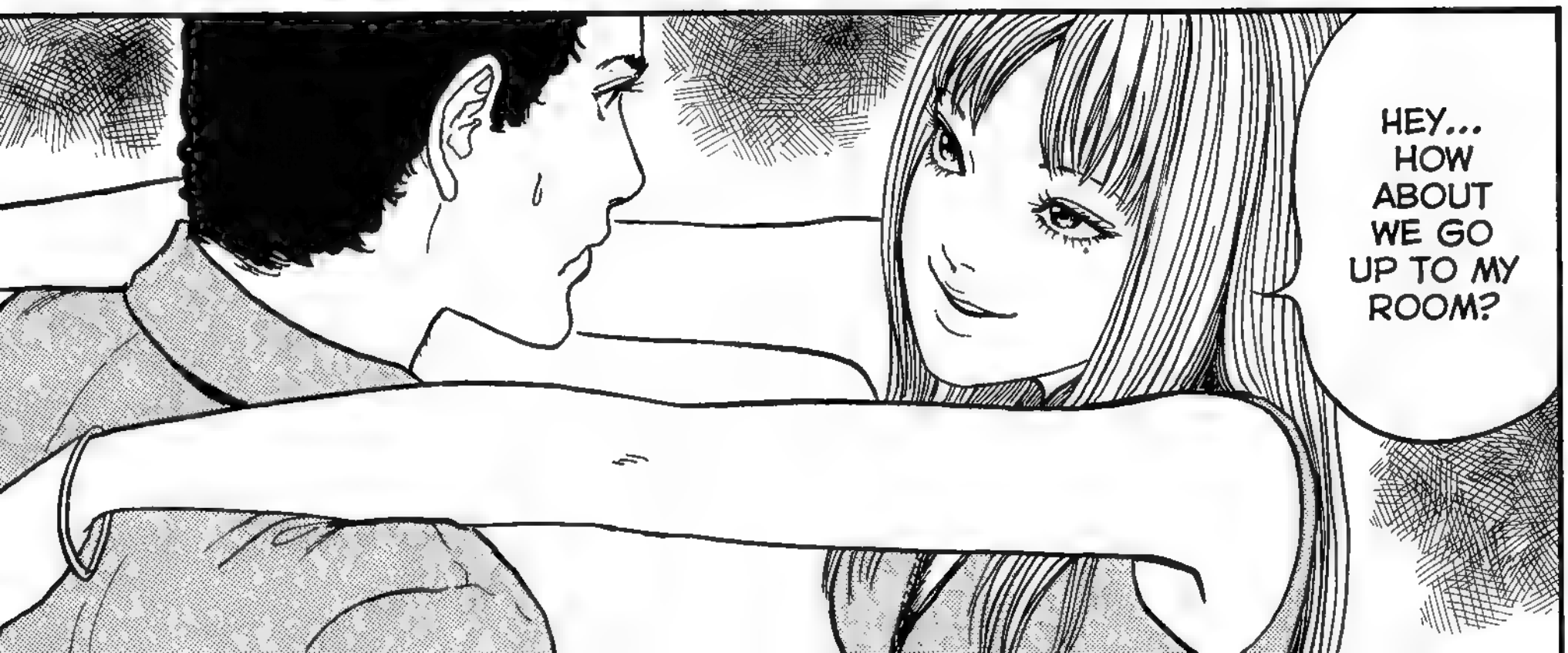
I'VE GOT ONE HERE.

ER... YES! TOMIE!




love
you.
omie
love

YEAH... YOU'RE JUST DANDY.


HEY... HOW ABOUT WE GO UP TO MY ROOM?

I'M OUT OF HERE!

WHAT IS THIS?! GET OFF!

NOK NOK

HEY, UMEHARA, ARE YOU HOME? IT'S ME... MIYA-GAWA...

NOK NOK

NAOKO ...

MIYA-GAWA...

FORGIVE ME. PLEASE ...

I THOUGHT IT MIGHT HELP YOU CHEER UP.

I'M SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TODAY... I... ER, I MEANT WELL.

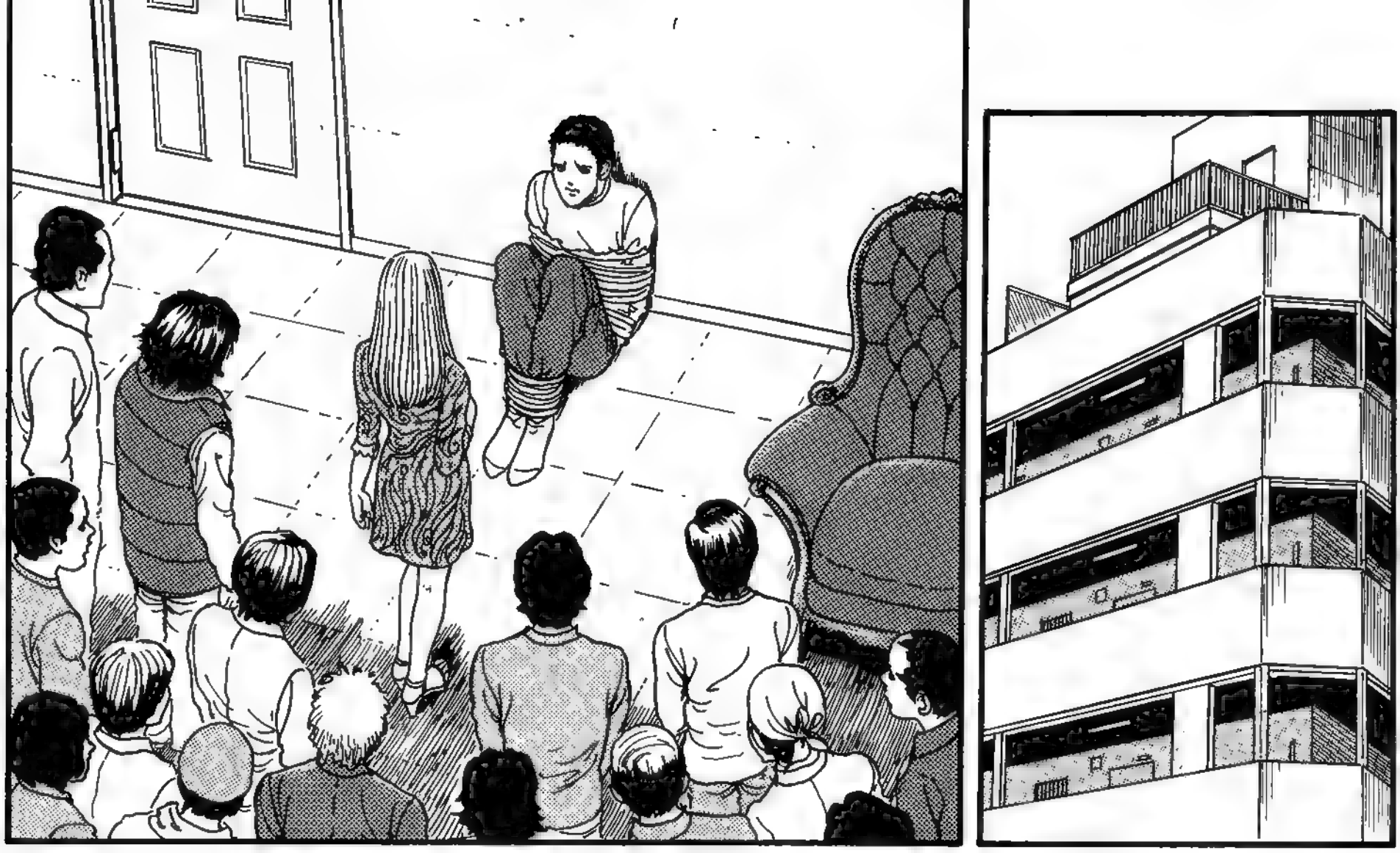
COME ON IN.

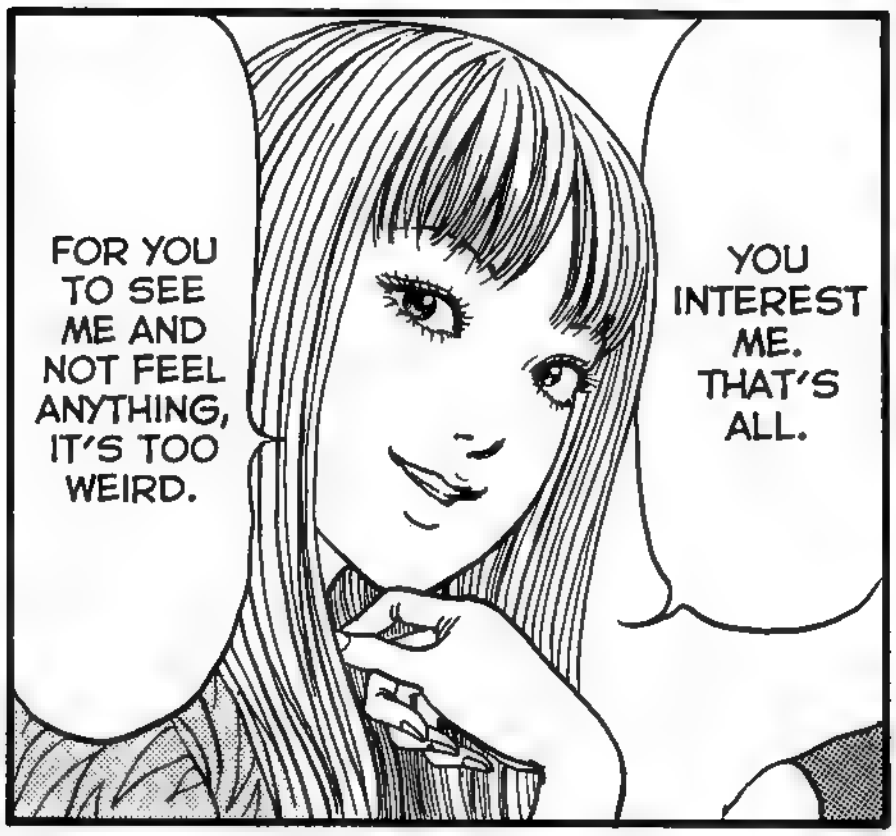
KACHAK

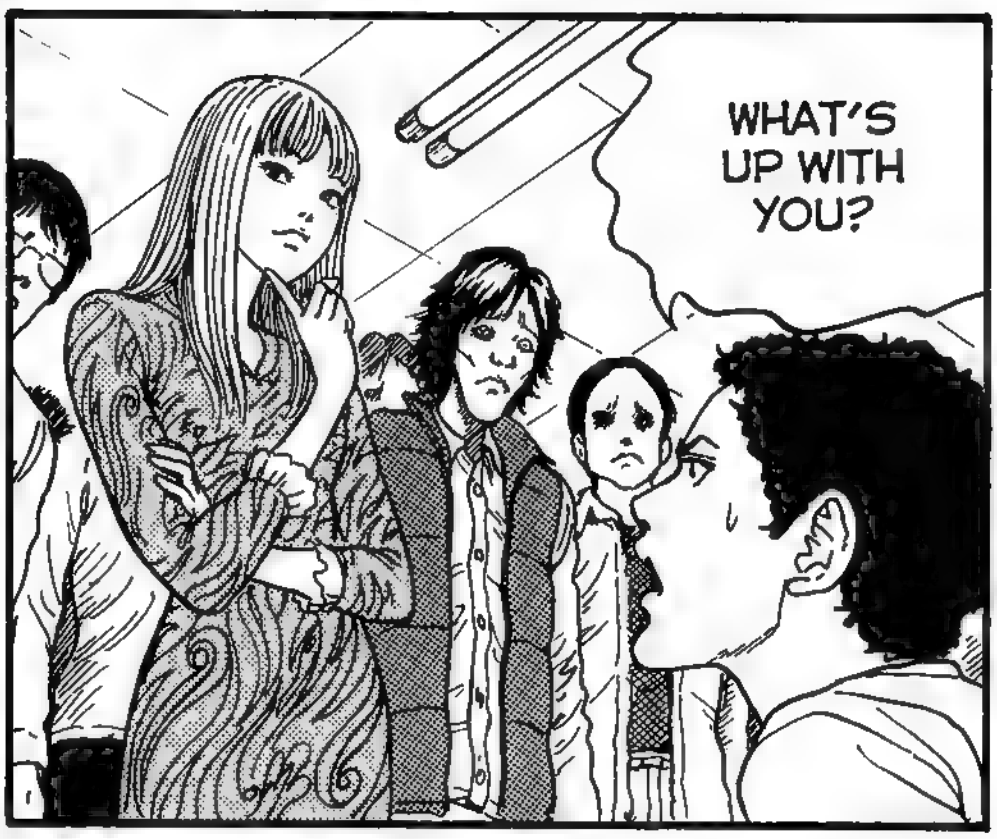
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

UH!

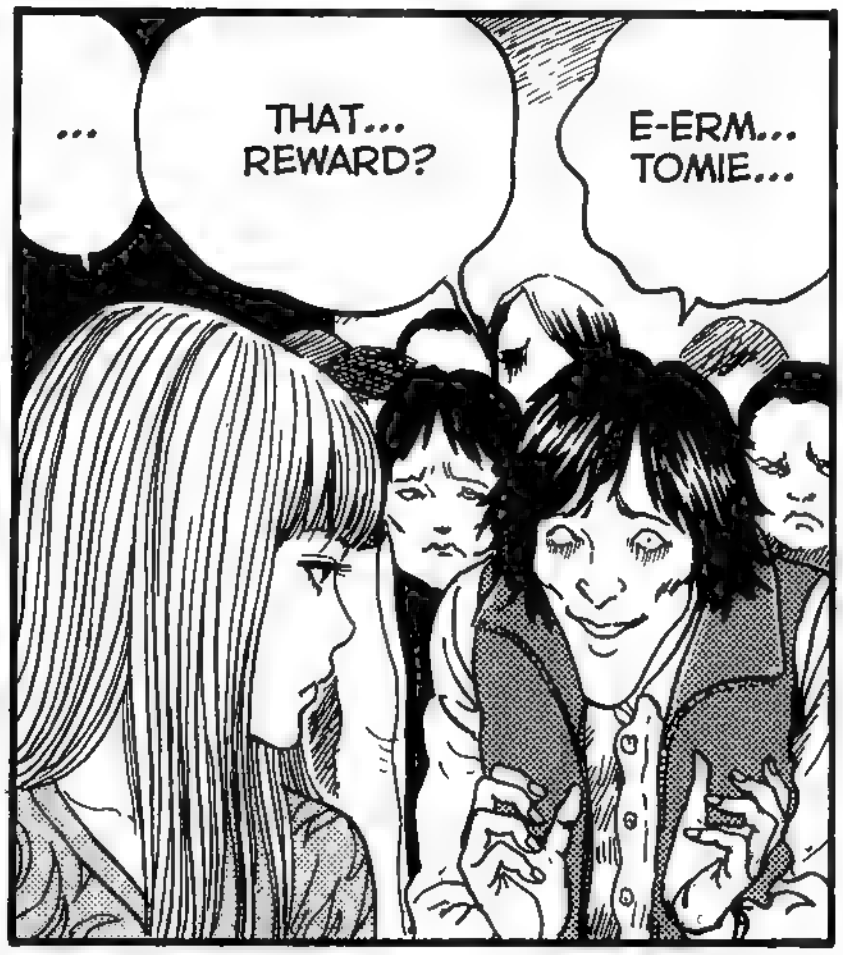
?!




FOR YOU TO SEE ME AND NOT FEEL ANYTHING, IT'S TOO WEIRD.
YOU INTEREST ME. THAT'S ALL.


WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?

Y... YES.
OH, RIGHT. GUYS, TAKE HIM TO MY ROOM, WILL YOU?
ER... UM...


...
THAT... REWARD?
E-ERM... TOMIE...

THANKS. I WON'T BE NEEDING YOU NOW.

FLAM

B-TUM

...

DO YOU LOVE ME?

SO, UMEHARA... BE HONEST AND TELL ME.

WE JUST MET. HOW ON EARTH SHOULD I KNOW THAT?

LOVE YOU?

WHO THE HELL ARE YOU, ANYWAY?

LOOK, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

ALL RIGHT. WILL YOU LOVE ME BY TO-MORROW, THEN?

OH, I GET IT. YOU'RE JUST SLOW.

DON'T YOU THINK IT'S DANGEROUS HANGING OUT WITH THAT CROWD?

WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THOSE GUYS OUTSIDE?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

YOU DIDN'T ANSWER MY QUES-TION!

WHAT ARE YOU JABBERING ABOUT?

WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?

YOU'RE STILL A TEEN-AGER, AREN'T YOU?

...

HE DIDN'T EVEN HESITATE.

HE CALLED ME AN IMMATURE, GOOD-FOR-NOTHING, INSENSITIVE HUSSY.

HE INSULTED ME.

EVERYBODY, LISTEN! THIS GUY IS WEIRD.

WHAT KIND OF A THING TO... THAT'S OUTRA-GEOUS!

W-WHAT THE—?

FIGHT

URK!

SMACK

UGH!

SMACK

LET'S GET HIM!

YEAH, GET 'IM!

ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?

B-TUM

HMPH!

NAOKO!

HEY!

NAOKO.

WHO IS SHE?

IN YOUR DELIRIUM, YOU KEPT ASKING FOR A... NAOKO. THAT WASN'T VERY NICE.

I WAS WORRIED. YOU REALIZE YOU WERE UNCON-SCIOUS FOR TWO DAYS?

SO YOU'VE COME TO, FINALLY.

BUT YOU KNOW, I'M STILL ALIVE. AND I HAVE PROBLEMS OF MY OWN.

OH. DEAD, YOU SAY. POOR THING...

THE ONLY WOMAN I EVER LOVED IN THIS WORLD... EVERYONE ADORED HER... BUT SHE'S DEAD NOW...

DON'T YOU HAVE AN OUNCE OF SYMPATHY ?!

THAT'S RIGHT... THEY KIDNAPPED ME! AND IMPRISONED ME!

THOSE BOZOS WON'T TAKE THEIR EYES OFF ME FOR A MOMENT. I'M TRAPPED.

...

PLEASE GET ME OUT OF HERE!!

UMEHARA, PLEASE! HELP ME!

WORTH-LESS MAN.

HMPH.

YOU'LL HAVE TO DO BETTER THAN THAT.

IF YOU'RE THE VICTIM, WHY IS IT YOU ACT LIKE THEIR QUEEN?

WHY ARE YOU TRYING SO HARD TO SEDUCE ME?

WE'VE GOT A SKIT FOR YOU!

YES, TOMIE!

Tomie, my love!

ARRGH. I'M BORED!

SHOW ME SOME TRICKS. SOME-BODY!

YOU TWO, JUST DROP DEAD!

THIS IS TIRE-SOME!

I CAN'T RESIST ANYMORE.

OH, MY LOVELY TOMIE!

OH, I'M SO FLAT-TERED!

HOW I LOVE YOU.

...

MAKE ME LAUGH, AND THERE'S A REWARD IN IT.

IS THERE NO ONE WHO CAN ENTERTAIN ME?

...

ABOUT THE REWARD YOU PROMISED ME...

ER... UM... TOMIE.

HAVE FUN.

THAT FRIEND OF YOURS? LOOK AFTER HIM.

RIGHTO. HERE ARE YOUR SPECIAL ORDERS.

OF COURSE... IT COMPLETELY SLIPPED MY MIND.

WHAT KIND OF REWARD IS THIS?

URGH, THIS IS STUPID.

YOU'RE A REAL JERK, YOU KNOW THAT?

HEY, UMEHARA.

AND IT'S ONLY GETTING WORSE.

I DREAM OF HAVING HER ALL TO MYSELF...

JUST... JUST TELL HER YOU LOVE HER. EVEN IF IT'S A LIE, SHE'LL BE YOURS, YOU KNOW?

TOMIE LIKES YOU...

I CAN'T EXPLAIN IT, BUT I... I THINK I MIGHT KILL HER. AND IT DOESN'T STOP THERE. I DON'T KNOW IF EVEN RIPPING HER APART WOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH. THAT'S THE WAY SHE MAKES ME FEEL.

I'M AFRAID I'D END UP DOING SOMETHING I SHOULDN'T.

THING IS, IF SHE WERE MINE...

LOOK AT THEM... THE LOOK IN THEIR EYES...

THE OTHER GUYS... I BET THEY ALL FEEL THE SAME.

IT'S LIKE A POWDER KEG.

EVERY-ONE'S SEARCHING FOR AN OPPOR-TUNITY TO TAKE HER FOR HIS OWN.

THE ATMO-SPHERE IS GETTING DANGER-OUS.

SWEE SWEE

HEE HEE HEE.

AND TOMIE...

...SHE HAS NO IDEA.

...

SUU

NAOKO ...

?!

GUYS!! COME ON!!

HAVE YOU ALL GONE CRAZY?!

EEYA-AHHH!

HUH ?!

TOMIE ...

TOMIE ...

STAND YOUR GROUND !

THE VERY NERVE! ALL OF YOU!

GNUUUUHH...

B-TUM

KUTAA

WHUP

PLEASE, DO SOMETHING!

SEE, THEY'RE AFTER ME!

UMEHARA! DID YOU SEE THAT?!

UNTIE ME, THEN!

PUMM PUMM PUMM

THE VERANDA !!

BAM BAM BAM

RIGHT. WHERE'S THE WAY OUT?

FAST!

SWPT

THIS IS MY REWARD.

HEH... TOMIE, YOU'RE MINE NOW.

OH.

CHUP

DIE!!

MIYA-GAWA !!

NO!

SHAM

SHAM

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE! RUN!

WHOW

BA-DUM

WHOOSH

GUYS, CUT IT OUT!

STOP!

DAMMIT! SHE'S MINE! MINE!

TOMIE IS MINE! MOVE IT!

TOMIE, WHERE ARE YOU?

WHERE'S HER BODY, ANYWAY?

I'LL... I'LL KILL...

LET ME! I WANNA GUT HER!!

LIKE HELL! I'LL CHOP HER UP!

I'VE GOT HER HAND!

THERE! THE LEG! THE LEG!!

GYAK!

SWOOSH

YOU MORON !!

CHUF

GYAK!

THAT'S NOT HER HAND. NO!!

THAT'S MY LEG!

GWAAH!

TOMIE! TOMIE!

GYAK!

SPEEK

GYAK!

AWK! NO, JACK-ASS!

GUYS, STOP IT! STOP, ALREADY!

AAHHH !!

GYA- AHH !!

...THEY WERE GONE, LEAVING NOTHING BUT A POOL OF BLOOD.

BY THE TIME I DRAGGED THE POLICE BACK THERE...

UNGH !

GWA- AHH !!

I CAN SAY ONLY ONE THING...

EVEN SO, THE CASE REMAINS UNSOLVED.

THE POLICE QUES- TIONED ME TO NO END.

NAOKO
...

NAOKO,
I LOVE
YOU...

NAOKO
...

HEY!

MY DREAMS OF NAOKO HAVE NEVER BEEN QUITE THE SAME.

SINCE THAT DAY...

PASSING DEMON

通り魔

LA...

LA...

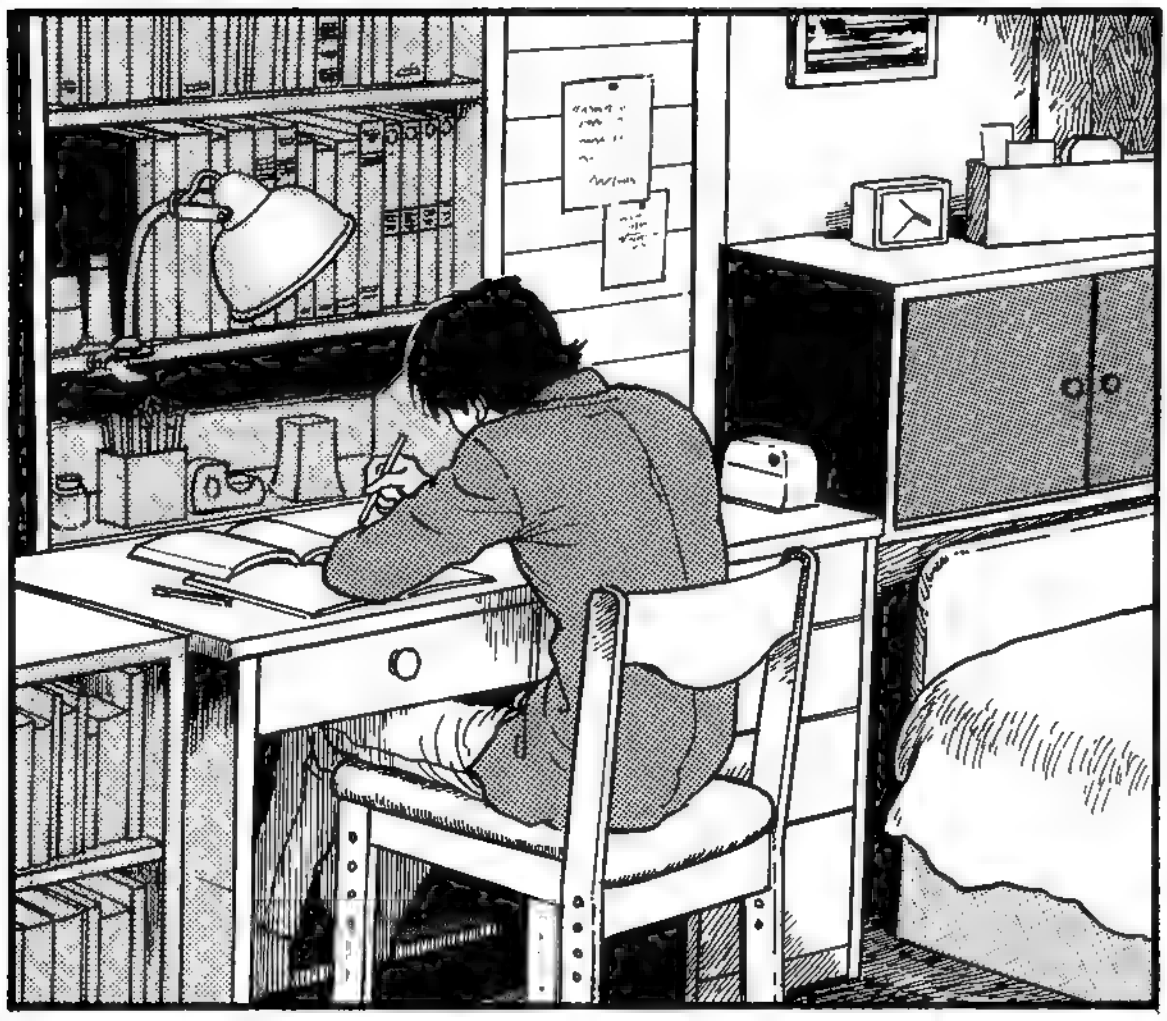
DAH...

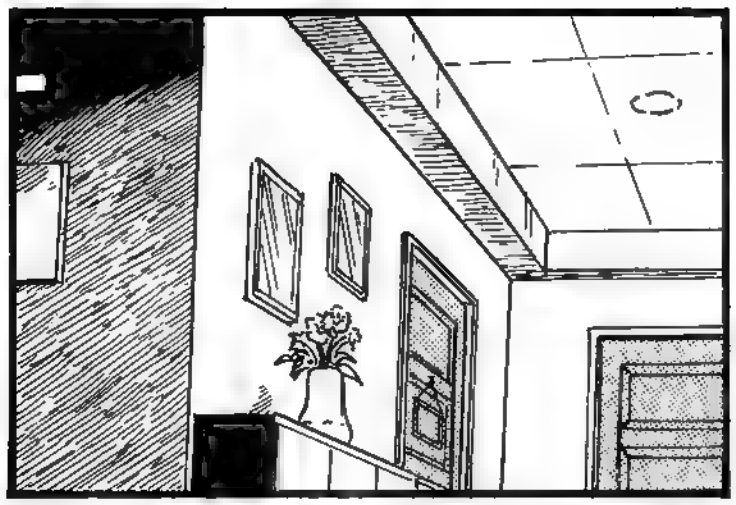
LAH...

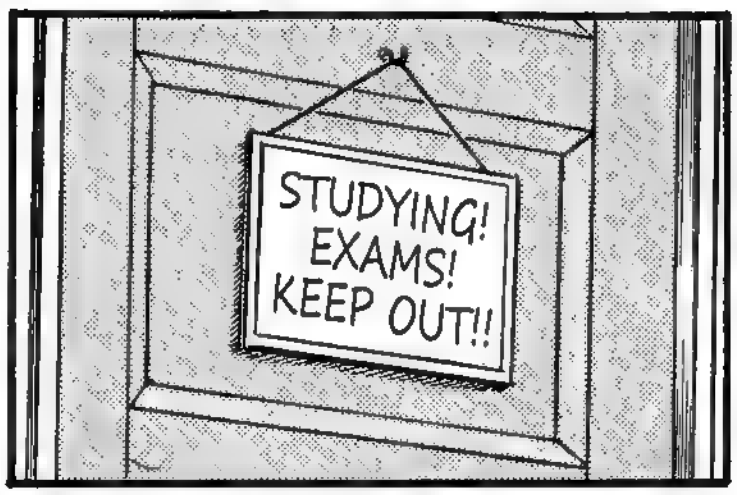
A PRETTY THING.

CUTE.

TUP






STUDYING!
EXAMS!
KEEP OUT!!

HELLO AGAIN.
YUKIO.

YUKIO.

SEEING A GUY HARD AT WORK WORKS ME UP TOO.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

I'M STUDYING RIGHT NOW. COULD YOU GO AWAY?

H... HEY, AYAKA.

YUKIO HAS AN ENTRANCE EXAM TO STUDY FOR. UNDERSTAND?

PLEASE... RIGHT NOW IS NOT A GOOD TIME FOR VISITING.

AYAKA... YOU'RE BACK HERE AGAIN?

KEEP OUT OF THIS.

LISTEN.

...

NOW, AYAKA, LET'S GO.

I'LL MAKE SURE SHE WON'T BE COMING HERE.

I'M SO VERY SORRY.

HEY, ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING ?!

AYAKA SURE IS A HANDFUL.

SHE SKIPS SCHOOL, TOO.

EVERY DAY THERE YOU ARE, DRUNK OFF YOUR GOURD...

THAT'S QUITE ENOUGH!

PHAAA

DAA...
LAA...
AWW, SHADDAP!
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE JEAL-OUS?
OH, BIG SISTER YASUKO.
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU QUIT.
AYAKA... YOU WENT TO YUKIO'S AGAIN, DIDN'T YOU?
YOU POOR THING.
IT'S A PITY YOU WEREN'T BORN WITH MY NATURAL CHARMS.
FHOO
WHAT THE HECK? YOU'RE JUST A THIRD GRADER.
IT'S TOO BAD I'VE ALREADY CLAIMED HIM.
I KNOW ALL ABOUT YOUR SECRET CRUSH ON THE POOR BOY.

AGH, MOM, I HATE HER!

HMPH... I WONDER.

OF COURSE SHE'S YOUR SISTER! WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

CAN SHE REALLY BE MY SISTER?

WHY IS SHE SO PRETTY?!

...IS MY DAUGHTER?

YOU SURE AYAKA...

HMM...

...

WHAT IS THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

HEY...

THERE'S THIS GUY I'VE SEEN WANDERING AROUND THE HOUSE, TIME TO TIME...

WHO WAS HE, THEN? THE MAILMAN?

THEN IT'S MIGHTY FUNNY SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ME!

OF COURSE SHE'S YOUR DAUGHTER! HOW DRUNK ARE YOU, ANYWAY?!

EVERY BABY HAS A MONKEY FACE.

HMPH... THAT MEANS NOTHING.

REMEMBER WHEN AYAKA WAS BORN, HOW EVERYONE SAID SHE TOOK AFTER YOU?

NOW THAT'S JUST NOT FAIR!

...

NOW SHE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE ANYONE ANYONE IN THE FAMILY ANYMORE.

THEN SHE... CHANGED AFTER HER FIRST YEAR.

BUT... SHE *DID* LOOK LIKE YOU.

...

DUM...

DAH ...

DEE ...

LA...

TEP

SH-SHKK

SHK

RSS RSS
RSSSH

HEY, YASUKO.

HOW'S THAT STUCK-UP SISTER OF YOURS GETTING ALONG?

YOCCHIN, COULD YOU AVOID TALKING ABOUT AYAKA? IT'S ANNOYING.

NO, REALLY, YASUKO. I HEARD SOMETHING INTERESTING.

COME ON. LET'S GO AND CHECK IT OUT.

WHAT...? CHECK WHAT OUT?

RIGHT HERE.

KANESHIRO

NO, OVER THERE!

WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THIS?

DUM...

DUM...

DAH...

DEE...

BUT WHY...

IT'S... IT'S AYAKA.

SHE LIVES HERE, YOU KNOW?

SURE DOES LOOK LIKE HER, THOUGH.

THERE'S SOME-THING DIFFER-ENT.

OH, BUT... IT'S NOT HER.

THERE ARE OTHER GIRLS IN TOWN WHO LOOK JUST LIKE HER.

BUT THAT'S NOT ALL. LISTEN, YOU'RE GONNA LOVE THIS.

BUT WHY?! HOW CAN SHE LOOK SO MUCH LIKE AYAKA?

WHA... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?

AND THEY'RE ALL LITTLE BITCHES.

LIKE, TWO OR THREE MORE... AND THEY ALL LOOK THE SAME. IT'S MIND-BLOWING.

KANESHIRO

THEY'RE ALL SEVEN OR EIGHT YEARS OLD.

I FOLLOWED YOU, YOU KNOW.

HEH HEH. JUMPY, AREN'T YOU?

AYAKA ...

ERH.

BIG SISTER YASUKO, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

LET ME GUESS. YOU WERE BADMOUTHING ME.

LA...

LA...

MOM, TELL ME WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

AND... I THINK THAT'S EVERYTHING. IT REALLY THREW ME FOR A LOOP.

MOM? WHAT IS IT?

KANE-SHIRO...

THE BIG ONE IN 3-CHOME... THE NAMEPLATE SAID KANESHIRO.

YASUKO... WHICH HOUSE WAS IT?

DON'T YOU REMEMBER THAT INCIDENT?

DON'T BE ABSURD! I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING IS ALL.

KANE-SHIRO, EH? THAT'S THAT LOVER OF YOURS?

I TOOK HER FOR A STROLL IN THE PARK THAT DAY...

INCI-DENT?

IT WAS... WHEN AYAKA WAS STILL A BABY...

IT WAS...

CUTE BABY.

KYA. DAH.

UH... YEAH?

GIRL, IS IT?

?!

WAHH!

NO!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING ?!

T!

K

GWAHH!

SOME-ONE CATCH THAT MAN!

IT WAS SOME RED LIQUID, LIKE BLOOD.

THE MAN, HE... HE INJECTED SOME-THING INTO AYAKA.

I THINK ONE OF THEM WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THE KANESHIROS, FROM 3-CHOME.

THEY SAID IT WAS NOTHING MORE THAN SOME KIND OF SICK PRANK. THAT OTHER KIDS GOT INJECTED TOO.

OF COURSE I TOOK HER TO THE HOS-PITAL IMME-DIATELY, BUT THEY SAID SHE WAS FINE.

IT WAS THEN THAT AYAKA BEGAN TO CHANGE.

I JUST REALIZED... IT WAS RIGHT AFTER THE ATTACK.

OKAY, BUT... WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

GLUP

ARE YOU SERIOUS ?!

AND SO NOW... ALL THE OTHER VICTIMS HAVE THE SAME FACE?

ARE YOU SAYING THE SHOT CHANGED AYAKA'S FACE?

COME ON... EXPLAIN IT TO ME.

THAT GIRL IS IMITATING ME.

HEY, YUKIO...

STUDYING! EXAMS! KEEP OUT!!

I'M SO ANNOYED ...

AND SHE LIVES IN THIS GREAT BIG HOUSE. IT'S INSUFFERABLE.

WHEN I'M STUCK WITH THIS POOR, MISERABLE FAMILY.

YUKIO ...

COME ON, CAN'T YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

CHANK

KRUNN

KANESHIRO

DEE...

DAH...

LA...

LA...

KANESHIRO

CRAP!

WOOSH

HELP ME!

HOLD IT!

HEY, STOP!

HELP ME! IT'S A SLASHER!

WHAT'S WRONG?

THERE! HE WENT THAT WAY!

SOMEONE GRAB THAT KID!

HUFF

HUFF

COME ON, KID! DROP THE FREAKIN' KNIFE!

CHATTER

CHATTER

FLT

HUFF

HUFF

THUDD

KLATTA

STOP HIM! SOME-BODY!!

CHUK

CHUK

NO, WAIT!! DON'T—

THAT WAS... YUKIO...

CALL AN AMBU-LANCE!

AAHHH!

AYAKA...

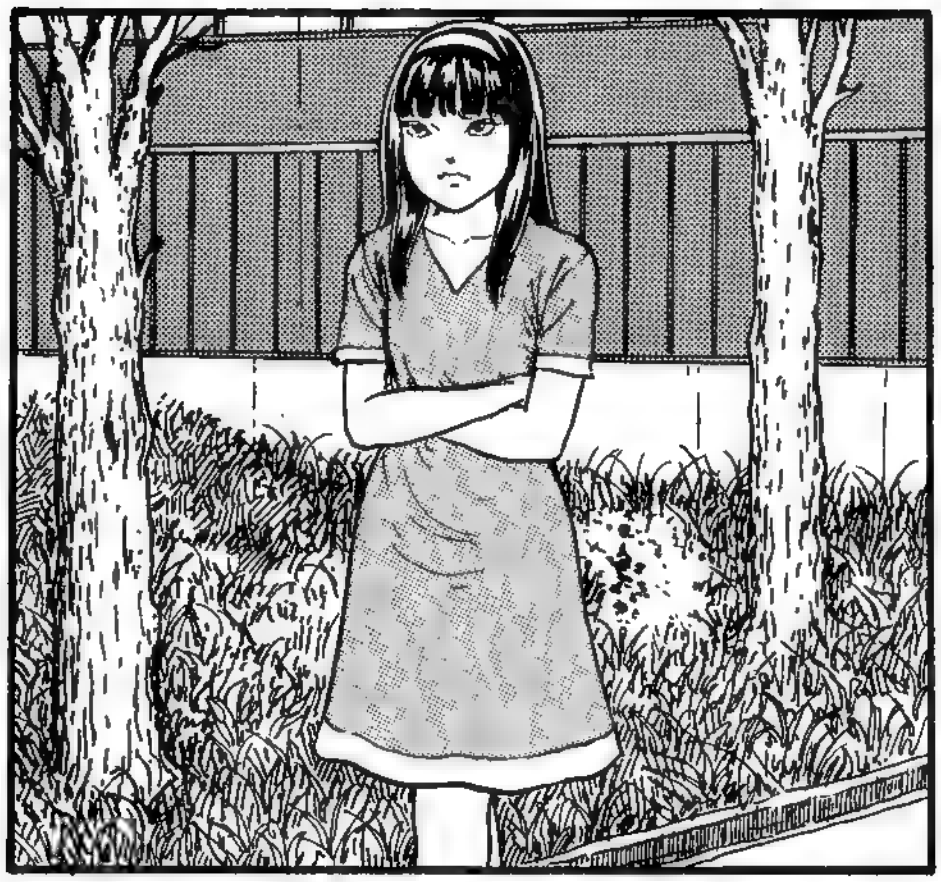
OH POOP... HE SCREWED IT UP!

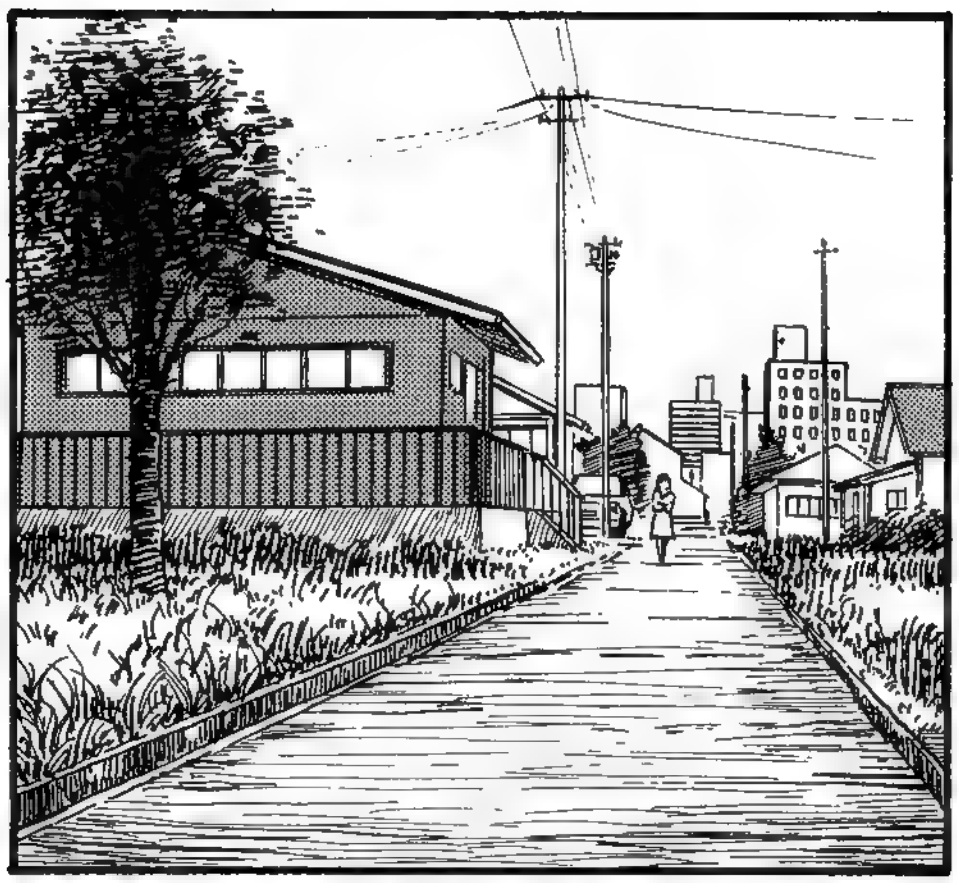
AFTER THAT KANESHIRO GIRL FROM 3-CHOME.

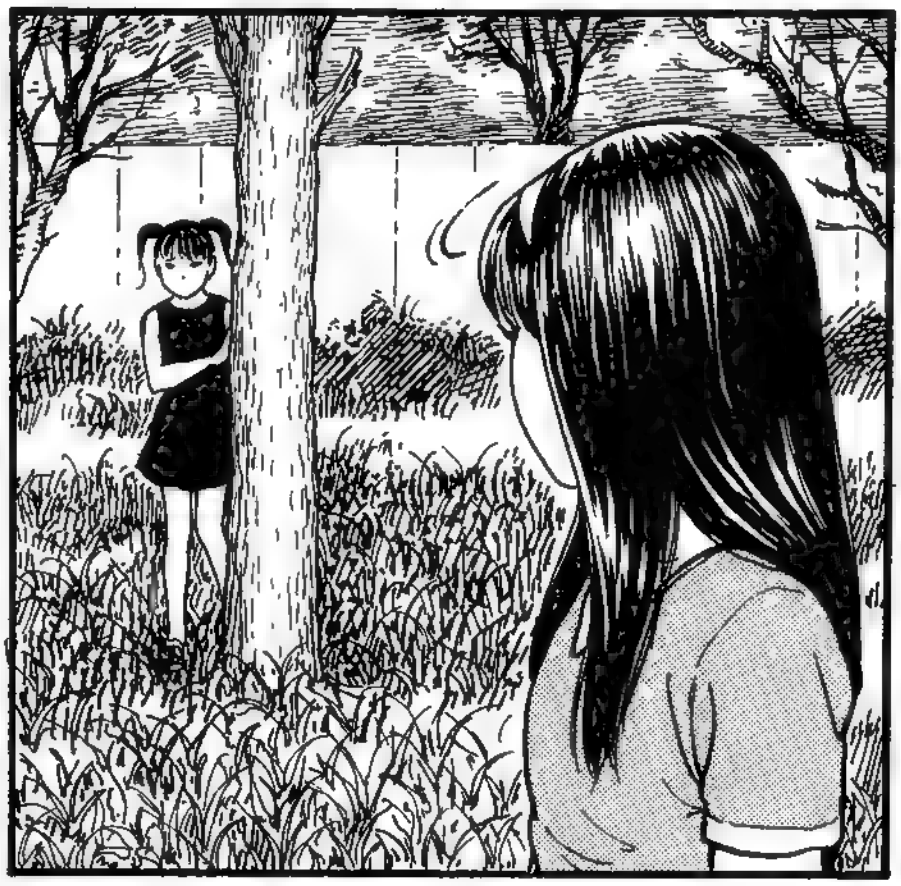
THE BOY WAS POS-SESSED.

WHAT, THAT PRETTY YOUNG THING?

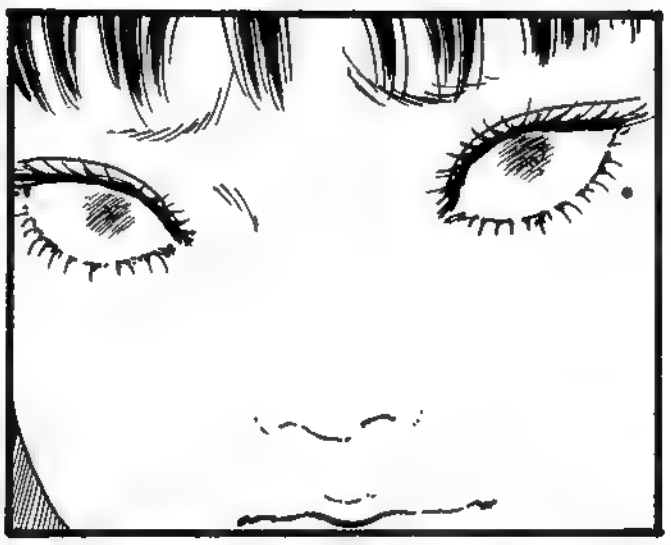
HE WAS AFTER A GIRL.

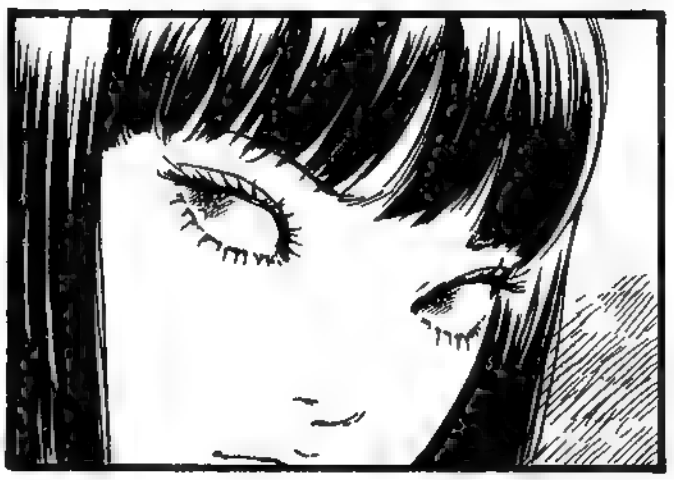


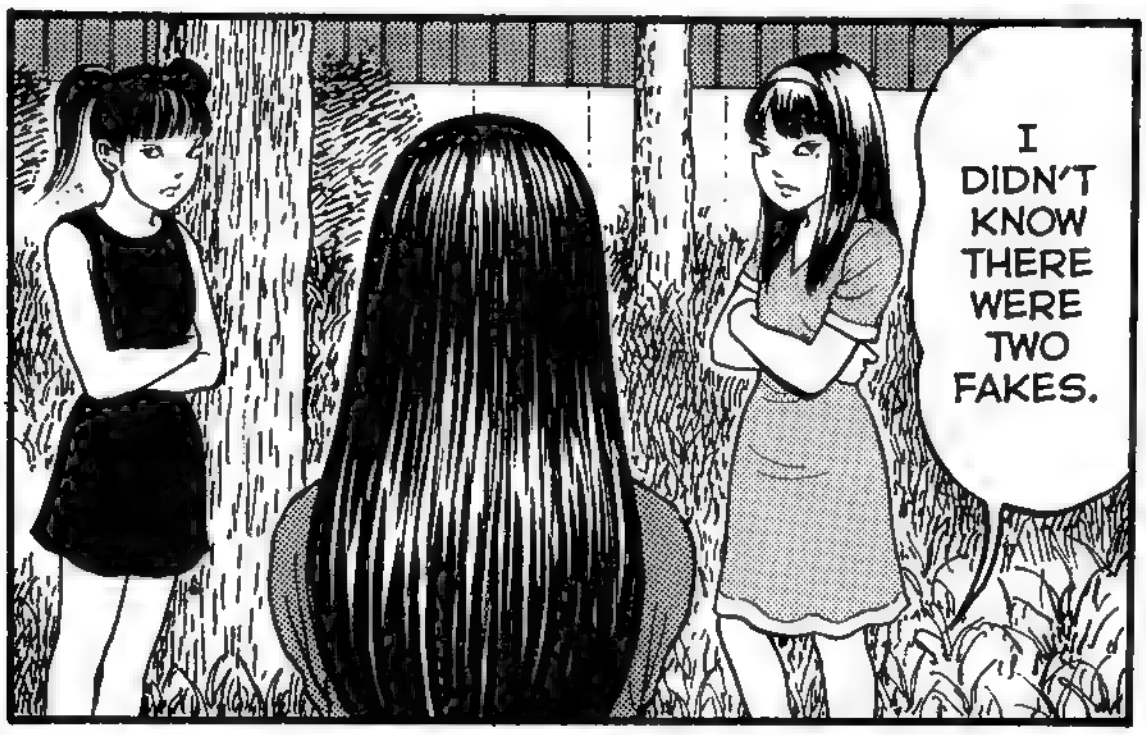


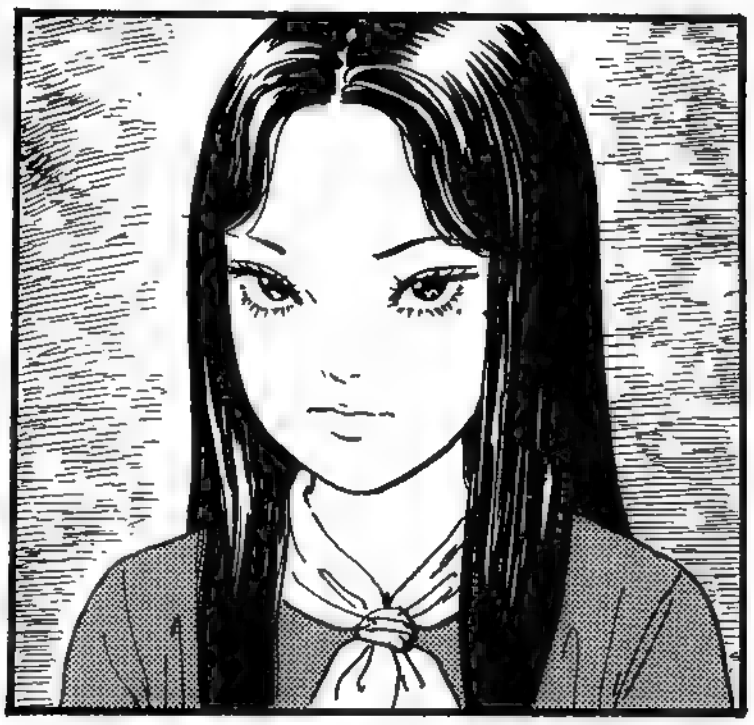


YOU'RE NOT THE KANE-SHIROS' GIRL.
WHO'S THIS, NOW?






I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WERE TWO FAKES.



MARK MY WORDS, YOU'LL PAY FOR IT.
WHAT AN UPPITY FAKE YOU ARE.

YOU MADE IT LOOK LIKE A RANDOM SLASHER.
IT WAS YOU... YOU TRIED TO KILL ME TODAY, DIDN'T YOU?

I'VE GOT MORE DEMONS WHERE THAT CAME FROM.

BETTER WATCH OUT, BOTH OF YOU.

WHAT'S UP YOUR SKIRT? YOU'RE BOTH THE FAKES HERE.

RUSTLE

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
AHHH !
KYAH !
HUFF
ANOTHER SLASHER!
DAMN, WHERE DID SHE GO?
HUFF HUFF
HUFF
SOME-ONE CATCH HIM!

OWAH!

CHOOK

AAHHH!

AAGH! FINE! I DON'T CARE WHO IT IS ANYMORE!

CITIZENS ARE ADVISED TO STAY AT HOME. IF YOU MUST GO OUTSIDE, PLEASE TAKE THE UTMOST PRECAUTION.

MAY WE HAVE YOUR ATTENTION. FREQUENT OUTBREAKS OF RANDOM MALE YOUTH VIOLENCE HAVE BEEN REPORTED.

BUT WHY IS IT THAT THE BOYS OBEY AYAKA?

AYAKA AND HER TWINS... ARE CONTROLLING THEM ALL.

OH, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ALL ALONE?

SO PRETTY THEY'LL DIE FOR HER? YUKIO...

IS IT BECAUSE SHE'S PRETTY?

...

IT'S NOT SAFE.

AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF THE DEMONS?

YOU ARE AYAKA'S SISTER, AREN'T YOU?

YOU'RE THAT...

YOU ...

I'M SO GLAD. I'VE BEEN WATCHING THEM GROW, YOU KNOW.

AYAKA AND THE OTHERS ARE DEVEL-OPING WELL...

IT WAS AS I GUESSED. AS THEY GREW, THE BABIES ALL CHANGED INTO TOMIE. GRADUALLY.

I WANTED TO KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF TOMIE'S BLOOD WAS INTRO-DUCED TO SOMEONE AT THE START OF LIFE...

YES, I AM... I'M THE ONE WHO INJECTED THEM.

I WILL HAVE ACHIEVED EVERYTHING I SET OUT TO DO.

IF ALL GOES AS PLANNED ...

WILL YOU PROTECT AYAKA FOR ME?

SO I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU.

I CAN'T VERY WELL LET MY GUINEA PIGS DIE OUT.

THE PROBLEM NOW IS THAT THEY'RE ALL TRYING TO ELIMINATE EACH OTHER.

ONCE SPLIT, TOMIE STOPS AGING, YOU KNOW.

BUT BY THE TIME SHE MATURES, I'M LIKELY TO KILL HER AND RIP HER APART.

I KNOW I SHOULD ADOPT AND PROTECT HER MYSELF.

YES, I SAID GROW OLD.

"WHY SHOULD I CARE," YOU ASK?

IT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO GROW OLD.

AND THAT'S WHY THESE GIRLS ARE PRECIOUS.

IT'S BECAUSE I WANT TO SEE IT! TO WITNESS THAT ARROGANT, BEAUTIFUL TEMPTRESS...

...AS SHE WRITHES AND GRIEVES OVER HER OWN HIDEOUS VULNERABILITY!!

NOD

RUSTLE

TELL ME YOU'LL HELP ME!!

LOOK... YOU UNDER-STAND, DON'T YOU?!

DEATH TO ALL IMPOS-TORS!

KILL THE WITCHES!! DO IT!

CROAK 'EM FAST! AND DON'T YOU DARE FAIL ME!

ALL RIGHT. I... I'LL PROTECT HER...

PASSING DEMON -/- END

トップモデル

TOP MODEL

AN ELITE MODEL.

FLASH FLASH

I USED TO BE A MODEL.

HECK, I WAS SO GOOD I EVEN CHARMED MYSELF.

THE FASHION RAGS USED TO BE SWAMPED WITH MY HANDSOME VISAGE.

I COULD PICK ANYONE I WANTED.

AND OF COURSE, THE GIRLS WERE ALL OVER ME.

THANKS.

OKAY, RYO. THAT WAS GREAT. SUAVE AS ALWAYS, MY MAN.

K-SHAA

K-SHAA

AH HA HA. YOU SURE ARE SOME-THING ELSE.

I WANT SOMEONE, YOU KNOW, ON MY OWN LEVEL. SAY, A SUPERMODEL?

I'M GETTING TIRED OF THE CHICK I'M SWINGIN' WITH NOW.

HEY, MISAWA... YOU KNOW ANY NICE GIRLS?

SHE'S DAMN GOOD.

YEAH ...

IS SHE THAT AMAZ-ING?

WHAT'S WITH THE STRAIGHT FACE? WHO IS IT, MISAWA?

THERE IS ONE.

OH... YEAH...

SHE'D MAKE A GREAT MODEL. I KNOW IT. AND I'D SURE LOVE TO SNAP HER UP...

SO SHE'S SHY, THEN.

BUT SHE JUST WON'T... THE GIRL DOESN'T WANT HER PICTURE TAKEN!

SEE, I'VE BEEN BREAKING MY ASS TO PERSUADE HER.

THE NUMBER IS...

I GAVE HER A CELL PHONE TO STAY IN TOUCH.

REALLY? YOU'D DO THAT FOR ME? THAT'S GREAT, RYO.

WELL... IF THAT'S HOW IT IS, MISAWA, THEN LOOK NO FURTHER. I'LL NAIL HER FOR YOU.

I SET UP A DATE...

AND WE DID LUNCH THAT SAME DAY.

SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.

NOT THE PROMPT-EST...

YOU'RE KIDDING ME. HOW CAN YOU HATE PHO-TOGRAPHS?

IT BLOWS MY MIND... YOU KNOW, YOU SHOULD BE A MODEL, A GORGEOUS GIRL LIKE YOU.

H-HEY... DON'T GO. THAT'S NOT IT.

I'M NOT INTER-ESTED.

SO THAT'S WHY YOU CALLED ME OUT HERE.

RIGHT THEN AND THERE, I DECIDED TO MAKE HER MINE.

HER BEAUTY CAPTIVATED ME UTTERLY.

WE MET AGAIN, MANY TIMES.

I LOVE YOU...

TOMIE ...

WHAT'S... SO FUNNY?

AH HA HA HA HA.

HEH HEH...

OH HO HO.

HOW? NOT MUCH, REALLY...

YOU DON'T? HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT ME, THEN?

JUST THAT I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

...

SUR-PRISE, SUR-PRISE.

HMM... MISTER POPULAR, ARE YOU?

HA... NEVER HEARD THAT FROM A WOMAN BEFORE.

NOT MUCH?

COME AGAIN?

WHAT ...

YOU'RE A MODEL, RIGHT?

SUR-PRISE ?

YOUR FACE, YOUR FIGURE... IT'S ALL SO ORDINARY.

I DIDN'T KNOW YOUR TYPE WAS IN FASHION.

WHAT ARE YOU, THICK?

I'M ELITE. THE TOP OF THE TOP. YOU CALL THAT AVERAGE?!

THAT BITCH.

WHAT THE HELL... ORDINARY ?!

HRMNF... SHE MIGHT BE PRETTY... SORT OF... BUT WHAT DOES SHE THINK THAT MAKES HER?!

GEEZ.

PIP PIP PIP

WHAT? DON'T SAY THAT.

I LOVE YOU... I CAN'T GET YOU OUT OF MY HEAD.

IT WAS FUN TODAY... SO... WHEN CAN WE GET TOGETHER AGAIN?

YO... TOMIE? IT'S ME, RYO.

AND TO BE SURE, I SPARED NO EXPENSE.

AT THAT POINT I RESOLVED I WOULD HAVE HER, WHATEVER THE COST.

IT STARTED TO IRRITATE ME.

SHE JUST SHRUGGED IT OFF LIKE AN OLD BLOUSE.

BUT HOWEVER MUCH I PUT IN...

I DO HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE, YOU KNOW.

WHY DON'T YOU UNDER-STAND HOW I FEEL ABOUT YOU?

TOMIE.

THE... SCALE ?!

AH HA HA HA. AT LEAST YOU'VE A SENSE OF HUMOR.

BUT COMPARED TO MY BEAUTY, YOU'RE NOT EVEN ON THE SCALE.

MAYBE THE PROB-LEM'S WITH YOUR EYES!

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE ORDINARY ABOUT ME? MY FACE, MY FIGURE... IT'S ALL TOP OF THE LINE!

WHAT THE HELL?

WHUH ...

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'RE MY EQUAL?!

OH, COME ON!

AND LET'S JUST CHECK THAT HEAD A MINUTE. YOU'RE CERTAINLY NOT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN ON EARTH.

THAT SWELLED HEAD'S A PRETTY POOR START!

HOW AMAZING DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, ANYWAY?!

AND COMPARED TO SOME OF THE SUPERMODELS I KNOW, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DOESN'T EVEN RANK.

I HANG OUT WITH ALL KINDS OF WOMEN, MOST OF THEM MODELS.

IF THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, YOU'RE JUST PLAIN NUTS.

THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO SCARED TO BE A MODEL.

YOU KNOW THERE ISN'T A PHOTOGENIC CELL IN YOUR BODY.

IF WE'RE TALKING SCALES, YOU AREN'T EVEN FIT TO WEIGH IN!

AND MORE THAN THAT, I BET YOU KNOW IT YOURSELF!

COME ON, LEVEL WITH ME.

ISN'T THAT RIGHT?

SWP

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY TO ME.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO?

...

TOMIE ...

OH MAN. WHAT HAVE I DONE?

TOMIE...

NO...

FLASH

FLASH

RIKIMARU STUDIO

IT'S NOTH-ING.

NO...

HMM ?

WHAT'S SHAKIN', RYO? YOU AREN'T LOOKIN' SO HOT.

HM?

YEAH... WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

...

ARE YOU RYO, THE FASHION MODEL?

ER...

SPLT

PLIP

!

RUA-AAGH !!

GRUH ...

SIR, PLEASE! CALM YOURSELF.

DOCTOR, PLEASE! YOU CAN'T LEAVE A SINGLE TRACE OF INJURY. IF THERE'S THE SLIGHTEST SCAR...

KOIWAZAKA HOSPITAL

HONESTLY, IT'S HARD TO AVOID ENTIRELY.

N... NOOO! DOCTOR, PLEASE!!

BUT THE INJURY WAS CAUSED BY DOUBLE BLADES. THAT MAKES IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT.

I STITCHED IT AS BEST I COULD. TO MINIMIZE SCARRING...

YOU THINK ANYONE WILL HIRE ME WITH A SCAR ON MY FACE?!

LISTEN, I'M A FASHION MODEL! MY FACE IS MY LIFE!!

IT CERTAINLY IS. RYO KOIZUMI IS A POPULAR MODEL AMONGST YOUNG WOMEN. LET'S HOPE HIS WOUND WILL HEAL ALL RIGHT.

AND SUPERMODEL RYO KOIZUMI IS IN THE NEWS TONIGHT AFTER BEING ATTACKED AND SLASHED IN THE FACE YESTERDAY EVENING.

ARITA, THAT'S APPALLING!

SHRIP

RIPP

IT'S... IT'S ALL OVER!!

I GUESS IT'S DIVINE PUNISH-MENT FOR ACTING SO SMUG.

HEH HEH... NOW THERE'S THE FACE OF AN ELITE MODEL.

OR AM I JUST THAT HARD TO FORGET?

SO WHY'D YOU WANT TO SEE ME? GOT SOME-THING ON YOUR MIND?

IF YOU HIT THE STREETS, THOUGH, I'M SURE YOU COULD STILL FIND A FEW PAY-ING CUS-TOMERS...

WITH THAT FACE, I GUESS YOUR CAREER'S OVER NOW, ISN'T IT?

WHA... WHAT DID YOU SAY?

TCHK

HEE HEE HEE...

HEH...

YOU... BITCH!!

URK...

SWICK

YAHH!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO ME?!

HUFF HUFF

VRRRRRRM

COME ON.

THRUP

GET IN HERE.

LET ME SEE IT.

AH HA HA. YEAH, THAT'S PERFECT.

NOW YOUR FACE IS JUST AS BEAUTIFUL AS MINE.

HA HA HA... SPEAKING OF RETRIBUTION.

HEH HEH... MIGHT AS WELL STICK TOGETHER NOW.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO...DO WITH ME?

NOW WE'RE TWO OF A KIND.

THAT'LL SCAR FOR SURE.

NOT SO LONG AS I HAVE YOU.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT MODELING ANYMORE.

DIVINE RETRIBU-TION...

HEH... HEE HEE...

YOUR... YOUR FACE...

WHAT?!

HOW ?!

IT'S GONE. JUST... GONE!

THE SCAR... WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SCAR?!

SORRY I DIDN'T TELL YOU.

I HEAL REALLY FAST.

AN EGO-MANIAC AND A FOOL!

SO JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE UGLY, YOU WANT EVERYONE ELSE TO BE LIKE YOU?

AH HA HA HA HA!

NO, IT... IT WAS A PRETTY DEEP GASH.

KYAAHHH!

THWUD

...DAMMIT!!

GOD...

HUFF HUFF

KYAAH!!

DON'T! NO!

I JUST NEED TO BE MORE CREATIVE IS ALL.

GYAAH!!

AAAHHH !!

PERFECT !!

HUFF HUFF

NOW LET'S SEE IF YOU HEAL.

HEH... HEE HEE.

CHECK IT OUT.

AND SHE STARTED TO DEFORM.

... INFEC- TION SET IN.

INSTEAD ...

AND AS EXPECTED, SHE DIDN'T.

WHAT... WHAT THE HELL...

UNTIL ...

TOMIE'S FACE CONTINUED TO DISTORT AND BULGE.

AS TIME PASSED...

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HER?

WHAT'S ...

MURMUR MURMUR MURMUR

AND WHEN I LISTENED, THERE WAS A FAINT SOUND...

CHATTER CHATTER CHATTER

MURMUR MURMUR MU

ALL OF THEM TOMIE'S.

SMALL AND SHRILL, BUT UNMISTAKABLE.

CHATTER CHATTER

MURMUR MURMUR

VOICES... VOICES UPON VOICES...

MURMUR MURMUR MURMUR MURMUR

AND THEN ...

SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

PITIFUL.

FAR BELOW AVERAGE.

UGLY.

RMUR MURMUR

UGLY MAN...

HE'S THE WORST.

AAHH!!

AH ...

FAR BELOW AVER-AGE.

HEH HEH. WHAT AN UGLY FELLOW.

I COULD TAKE NO MORE, SO I DOUSED THE ROOM WITH KER-OSENE...

...AND LIT A MATCH.

FOOOF

HAAAIIIGS

!!!

THE NEXT THING I KNEW, I WAS IN THE WOODS.

AFTER THAT, IT ALL BECOMES HAZY.

NO... IS THIS... MY FACE...?

NGUUUUH.

GOSH, WHAT A HORRIBLE BURN...

HNUH ?

HNG-GUUH ...

HUH ...

IT WAS TOMIE.

A DIFFERENT TOMIE. ONE I HADN'T MET BEFORE...

SINCE THEN, I'VE COME ACROSS SEVERAL MORE.

EACH IN TURN LAUGHED AT MY FACE AND FLAUNTED HER BEAUTY.

RUSTLE

...IS TOMIE?

YOUR SISTER, AYAKA, HAS CHANGED. AS SHE GROWS OLDER, SHE WILL DO SO AS TOMIE. PLEASE ENSURE SHE LIVES TO A RIPE OLD AGE.

I'VE ONE LAST RE-COURSE. I'M COUNTING ON AGE TO DO MY WORK FOR ME.

YASU-KO...

...EARTH...

...WHO ON...

TOP MODEL / END

老醜
ろうしゅう
OLD AND UGLY

...ARE WORKING HARD IN THE SHADOWS.

THE ASSASSINS HIRED BY THE THREE TOMIES...

IT'S SHROUDED IN A STRANGE ENERGY.

THE TOWN I LIVE IN...

MAI OH-YAMA.

AND MY SISTER, AYAKA NAKA-MURA.

THE THREE TOMIES:

MIHO KANE-SHIRO.

BUT THE BOYS... THEY JUST KEEP COMING.

HE'S BEEN TAKING CARE OF THE BOY ASSASSINS, ONE BY ONE.

RUNNING INTERFER-ENCE IN ALL THIS IS THE MAN IN BLACK.

THEY'RE ALL TRYING TO WIPE EACH OTHER OUT.

HE'S COME HERE AFTER AYAKA.

MOM, THERE'S ANOTHER CREEP HANGING AROUND THE HOUSE.

SHHK

YASUKO!! TAKE YOUR SISTER AND GO HIDE SOME-WHERE!

I'LL CALL THE POLICE.

SHAD-DAP!

DO SOME-THING!

THIS IS NO TIME TO BE DRUNK!

HURRY!

AYAKA!! THIS WAY!

SPA-KISSS

YAAHH!

KRAK

NO. IT'S DIRTY.

GOD, AYAKA, THIS REALLY ISN'T THE TIME!

MOVE IT! INTO THE ATTIC!

YOU...

THERE'S SOMEONE IN MY HOUSE! WITH A KNIFE!

H... HELLO? IS THIS THE POLICE?

GIVE ME AYAKA.

MOM...

AUUHHH...!

RUSTLE

SOME TIME LATER WE HEARD THE SIRENS. WE CAME DOWN TO FIND MY MOTHER DEAD ON THE FLOOR.

I CAN'T PROTECT AYAKA ALL BY MYSELF.

THEY JUST KILLED MY MOM!

...

MY FATHER WAS FAST ASLEEP, DRUNK.

STILL, MY FAMILY SURVIVED UNSCATHED.

NOT LONG AFTER, SOMEONE TORCHED OUR HOUSE AND BURNT IT TO THE GROUND.

WE DON'T KNOW WHEN AND WHERE THEY'LL COME FROM NEXT.

ARE YOU STUPID?

BIG SISTER YASUKO, WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AROUND LIKE THAT?

AH, CRUD... I KNEW I SHOULD'VE TAKEN OUT INSURANCE.

IF YOU NEED FINANCIAL HELP, I CAN TAKE CARE OF THAT.

IT WILL BE SAFER FOR YOU.

WHY DON'T YOU MOVE SOMEWHERE FAR AWAY?

YASUKO... WHO'S THAT MAN?

HE'S SO UGLY!

HA!

UGLY MAN!

AH HA HA HA!

I FINALLY DID IT!!

I DID IT!!

MAI OHYAMA! I KILLED HER!

AT LONG LAST!

SEE, I KILLED HER!

OH, AYAKA! WHAT GREAT TIMING!

YEAH... RIGHT, OKAY.

GO DEAL WITH HER, NOW!

YOU'VE STILL GOT MIHO KANE-SHIRO.

YEAH, SO WHAT?

HEH...

HEH HEH HEH.

THIS TOMIE WILL BE CREMATED AT THE HIGHEST TEMPERATURE, TO PREVENT HER FROM REGENERAT-ING.

THERE'S ONE DOWN.

WHERE THE MONEY ACTUALLY CAME FROM, I CAN ONLY SPECULATE.

SINCE MY DAD COULDN'T HOLD A JOB, THE MAN IN BLACK GAVE US WHAT SUPPORT WE NEEDED.

BEFORE LONG, WE MOVED TO AN APARTMENT IN ANOTHER TOWN.

WE WOUND UP HAVING TO MOVE AGAIN AND AGAIN.

TIME FLEW BY...

...MIHO KANESHIRO'S STOOGES CONTINUED TO DOG US.

EVEN AFTER WE MOVED...

DUM ...

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK?

DAH ...

LA...

DEE ...

DRAB AS EVER. I KNOW YOU'RE ONLY 22...

...BUT DARNED IF YOU DON'T LOOK FORTY.

IN COM-PARISON, YASUKO...

DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW HARD I WORK TO PROTECT YOU?

YOU'RE SURE ACTING SMUG.

THERE'S NO BETTER PLEASURE THAN TO LIVE AS A BEAUTY.

A PRETTY GIRL CAN MAKE ANY OUTFIT LOOK MARVELOUS.

I WISH HE'D JUST DISAP-PEAR.

ARGH, I HATE THAT FILTHY MAN.

OY, YAH-SOO-KO, GO GIMME SOMMORE BOOZE!

HIC

HEE HEE HEE.

AYAKA... YOU LOOK GREAT IN THAT OUTFIT.

OH... HEH HEH.

REEK

REEK

REEK

REEK

K-CHAK

CREAK

HEE HEE.

PAT

?!

I'VE HELD BACK LONG ENOUGH.

WHAT A LOOKER.

AYAKA ...

GWAH !

CHOK

Y... YASU-KO...

LET MISTER UGLY DEAL WITH THE CORPSE.

I HAD TO DO IT...

HAA ...

HAA ...

ONE FATEFUL DAY...

AND THEN ...

HEH... HEH HEH.

HMPH.

AYAKA!

OH, ZIP IT. I CAN'T PLAY SHUT-IN LOSER AS WELL AS YOU.

IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO GO OUTSIDE!

AYAKA!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?!

DIE!

KRUP

STOP IT!

TUP

AYAKA!

KYAH!

KUH!

THAKK

YOU OKAY ?!

AYAKA.

NURSSH

A... AYAKA.

TEETER

A... AYAKA.

SHE'LL PAY FOR THIS.

IT'S... IT'S UNPARDONABLE... MIHO KANESHIRO...

COULD IT BE... IS IT ALL OVER NOW?

AND AFTER I PROTECTED HER FOR SO LONG ...

WILL HER FACE HEAL? OR WILL THE INJURIES CAUSE HER TO MULTIPLY?

I WAITED, BUT AYAKA DID NOT RETURN.

HUH?

CATCHING UP ON YOUR BEAUTY SLEEP?

AYAKA!

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN FOR... FOR THE LAST MONTH?! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR WOUNDS?

OH, THEY HEALED LONG AGO. ANYWAY, GET UP, WE'RE MOVING.

WHAT? WHERE ?!

KANESHIRO

AYAKA, WHAT'S GOING ON?!

I TOOK OVER THE PLACE.

IT'S...THE KANESHIRO MANSION.

TO HERE.

I JUST PRETENDED TO BE MIHO KANESHIRO AND WALTZED RIGHT IN. THE FAMILY WAS SO CONFUSED, THEY WOUND UP SELF-DESTRUCTING ALL ON THEIR OWN.

IT WAS PRETTY EASY.

HE... WHAT?

YOU KNOW, HE TRIED TO SAVE MIHO. WASTED EFFORT, OF COURSE.

OH, AND THAT MAN IN BLACK? WHAT A CHARAC-TER.

IF I HAD KNOWN IT WAS THAT SIMPLE, I WOULD'VE DONE IT LONG AGO.

I GUESS HE WANTED TO PRESERVE AS MANY OF HIS TOMIES AS POSSIBLE.

WHILE HELPING AYAKA... HE WAS ALSO WORKING TO KEEP MIHO ALIVE...

...

HOW'S THAT SOUND, YASUKO ?

THAT MEANS THAT FROM NOW ON, YOU'LL WORK AS MY MAID-SERVANT.

LISTEN, I'M NOW THE MISTRESS OF THIS HOUSE.

COMING !

YES!

YASUKO!

YASUKO !

I... ER...

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

MIND TELLING ME WHY YOU HAVEN'T?

YASUKO, I TOLD YOU TO CHANGE THIS CURTAIN.

TEE HEE HEE.

OH HO HO HO.

I'M NOTHING BUT A HOUSEHOLD SERVANT NOW.

I CAN NO LONGER PROTECT AYAKA.

YOU'VE LIVED YOUR WHOLE LIFE UNDER YOUR SISTER'S THUMB.

YASUKO... DON'T YOU RESENT HER?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR RESOLVE ?!

AND ALL THIS TIME YOU'VE WORKED SOLELY SO YOU CAN HAVE THE LAST LAUGH WHERE IT HURTS HER MOST.

OH, COME ON! YOU SHOULDN'T ALLOW ANY MAN NEAR TOMIE!

EVERY MAN WHO HANGS OUT WITH HER WILL EVENTUALLY CHOP HER TO PIECES.

ARE YOU TRYING TO SHUT ME IN?

YASUKO, WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?

STEP ASIDE!

I DON'T NEED TO LISTEN TO A NOTHING LIKE YOU.

DON'T BE ABSURD!

PLEASE MISS... YOU CAN'T SEE THAT MAN ANYMORE.

I SAID STEP ASIDE!

WHAT NONSENSE IS THIS?

I CAN'T HAVE YOU RISK YOUR LIFE ANY FURTHER!

NO, MISS. I CAN'T!

WHO ARE YOU, NOW?

KACHAK

I WON'T!

SHFF

TIED UP LIKE THAT, AT LEAST YOU'LL LIVE... AND YOU'LL GROW OLD. THAT'S REALLY WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

UNTIE ME RIGHT THIS MINUTE!

I WILL NOT PERMIT THIS!

I TELL YOU, YOU'LL REGRET IT!

YOU'LL PAY FOR WHAT YOU'RE DOING TO ME!

I WON'T... I WON'T ALLOW IT!

YASUKO !

AAGH!

AH!

RE-GRETS? I DON'T KNOW WHO'D EVEN BLAME ME.

AND YOU'LL GO ON SUFFERING... AS YOU GET OLDER AND OLDER...

NO, THIS WAY YOU'LL SUFFER.

?!

AAHH !!

AAAHH!

SHATTER

AH!

SHATTER

AAAHH!!

AAHH!!

OH NO... BUT WHY?! IT SEEMS SHE'S MULTIPLYING ON HER OWN.

WURB

SNAP

I'D BETTER SKIP RIGHT TO MY LAST RESORT.

FWUH

FWUH

CLINK

THUS...

AYAKA WAS KEPT SAFE AND SOUND INSIDE A SOLID CONCRETE BLOCK.

FLURE FLURE FLURE

IF YOU WANT PROOF ...

DON'T WORRY. SHE WON'T DIE IN THERE.

THIS WAS THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP TOMIE FROM MULTIPLY-ING.

GRRMMMN...

MRRM ...

IT'S BEEN DAYS NOW...

BUT YOU CAN STILL HEAR HER MOANING.

LISTEN CARE-FULLY.

RUSTLE

AND HOARSE.

HWEEEEEEEE

...AND OVER TIME, TOMIE'S VOICE TURNED SOMBER.

MRRRRMMMMMNNN

MONTHS PASSED ...

HWEEEEEEEE

HWEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE

JUST LIKE US...

I CAN STILL HEAR HER.

TOMIE IS GETTING OLD.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? I'M ALREADY EIGHTY MYSELF.

OH WELL... I GUESS I'LL DO IT.

I'M OVER A HUNDRED YEARS OLD. I'VE NO STRENGTH LEFT TO BREAK THE CONCRETE.

CAN YOU DO THAT FOR ME?

YEAH, SURE, GRAMPS.

GRANNY, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME TO CHECK UP ON HER?

KLANG

RUSTLE

KLANG

THIS WILL TAKE FOREVER TO BREAK.

WHY DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE IT SO HARD?

HWEEE

OH, GRAMPS, GRAMPS ...

KLANG

HWEEEEEE

FWEE

KLANG

RUSTLE

MRRRRRRRMNN

FWEE

KLANG

THAT'S ALL I CAN DO TO IT.

IT'S NO GOOD, GRAMPS.

HWEEEEEEEEE

ALL RIGHT, FINE! THEN I'LL DO IT!

TOMIE RUINED MY LIFE! SHE WILL PAY, IN THE END!

THINK OF THE YEARS WE'VE SPENT, WAITING FOR THIS MOMENT! WE MUST OPEN IT!

WHA... WHAT ARE YOU SAYING ?

KWA-AAH !!

OH, GRAMPS, PLEASE. YOU CAN'T.

OH, SHUT UP.

KRIDDLE CRICKLE

KRUMPF

KRUMPF

KLANG

KLANG

SCRUNCH

KRAK

KRAK

OHH.

HWEEEE

HWEEEE

AH HA HA HA HA. TOMIE... LOOK AT TOMIE!!

GRANNY, LOOK!

G... GRAMPS ...

WHEN I LOOKED CLOSER, I SAW AN OLD CRACK. IT LOOKED AS IF IT HAD BEEN THERE A VERY LONG TIME.

THE SPOT WHERE TOMIE SHOULD HAVE BEEN WAS EMPTY.

I COULDN'T SEE A THING.

HWEEEEEEEEE

THE FISSURE CONTINUED DOWN THROUGH THE FLOOR, AND THROUGH IT BLEW A BREEZE, CARRIED UP FROM UNKNOWN DEPTHS...

RUSTLE

...WHICH SPUN INTO THE MOST PLAINTIVE MOAN IN THE WORLD.

WHOOOOOO

I WONDER IF THAT'S HOW TOMIE GOT AWAY.

TOMIE / END

伊藤潤二

あとがき

AFTERWORD

By Junji Ito

It was about twenty-four years ago that I started working on *Tomie*. That's almost a quarter of a century. At the time, I was working as a dental technician as I mulled over ideas in my head, and I would use my days off to work on the manga. I churned out the original thirty-page short when I was living in Nagoya in a run-down apartment complex called Nagoya-so near Issha Station on the Higashiyama Line.

I had decided that I would submit it for consideration at the Umezu Awards, and I was quite serious about it. I was busy working on the manga pages when one of my friends famous for his antics dropped by and scribbled in the panels of my rough draft. Normally I would have playfully gotten him back for that, but at the time I grumpily grabbed my eraser to clean up his handiwork. I was serious.

This also marked the first time I had properly taken a manga to completion. I barely managed to finish the final draft (which, in retrospect, was quite rough around the edges) before the deadline and rushed to the post office in my car so I could make it back to the dentist's office before my lunch break ended.

Incredibly, *Tomie* won honorable mention at the first Umezu Awards. At that point, I was so convinced that I was on a lucky streak that I bought a mountain of lottery tickets, which unfortunately didn't work out. To the contrary, I had a horrible string of bad luck after that. The dentist's office was in the process of moving and I was trying to get the company president's wife's stick shift up a hill when I almost plowed down some of my coworkers. On another occasion, I was on my way home from work late at night and was pulling my beloved Toyota Starlet into the Nagoya-so parking lot when another person in my building (a rebellious-looking fellow) totaled it with his Crown. Even so, the sheer bliss of winning honorable mention at the Umezu Awards eclipsed those things. After *Tomie* ran in the magazine, I would joke with my coworker, Mr. H, about how it was going to be made into a movie and that I would be judging a swimsuit contest during the audition for the part of Tomie (this was more than a decade before *Tomie* was actually made into a movie).

Reminiscing aside, it's all thanks to the support of readers like you that *Tomie* has been released in so many different formats. I am incredibly grateful. I would also like to take this opportunity to again thank everyone at the Comic Editorial Department at Asahi Sonorama (now Asahi Shimbun Publications) from the bottom of my heart—especially Mr. Toshiyasu Harada, who has been my editor since I originally debuted.

Junji Ito
December 22, 2010
(Translated by Evan Galloway)

Also by
JUNJI ITO
From VIZ Media

GYO
UZUMAKI
FRAGMENTS OF HORROR

TOMIE

TOMIE
Complete Deluxe Edition

Story & Art by
JUNJI ITO

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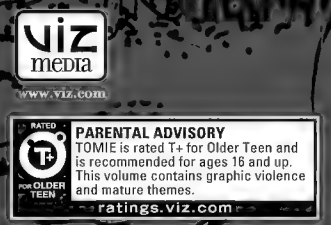
RATED
T+
FOR OLDER TEEN
PARENTAL ADVISORY
TOMIE is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up.
This volume contains graphic violence and mature themes.
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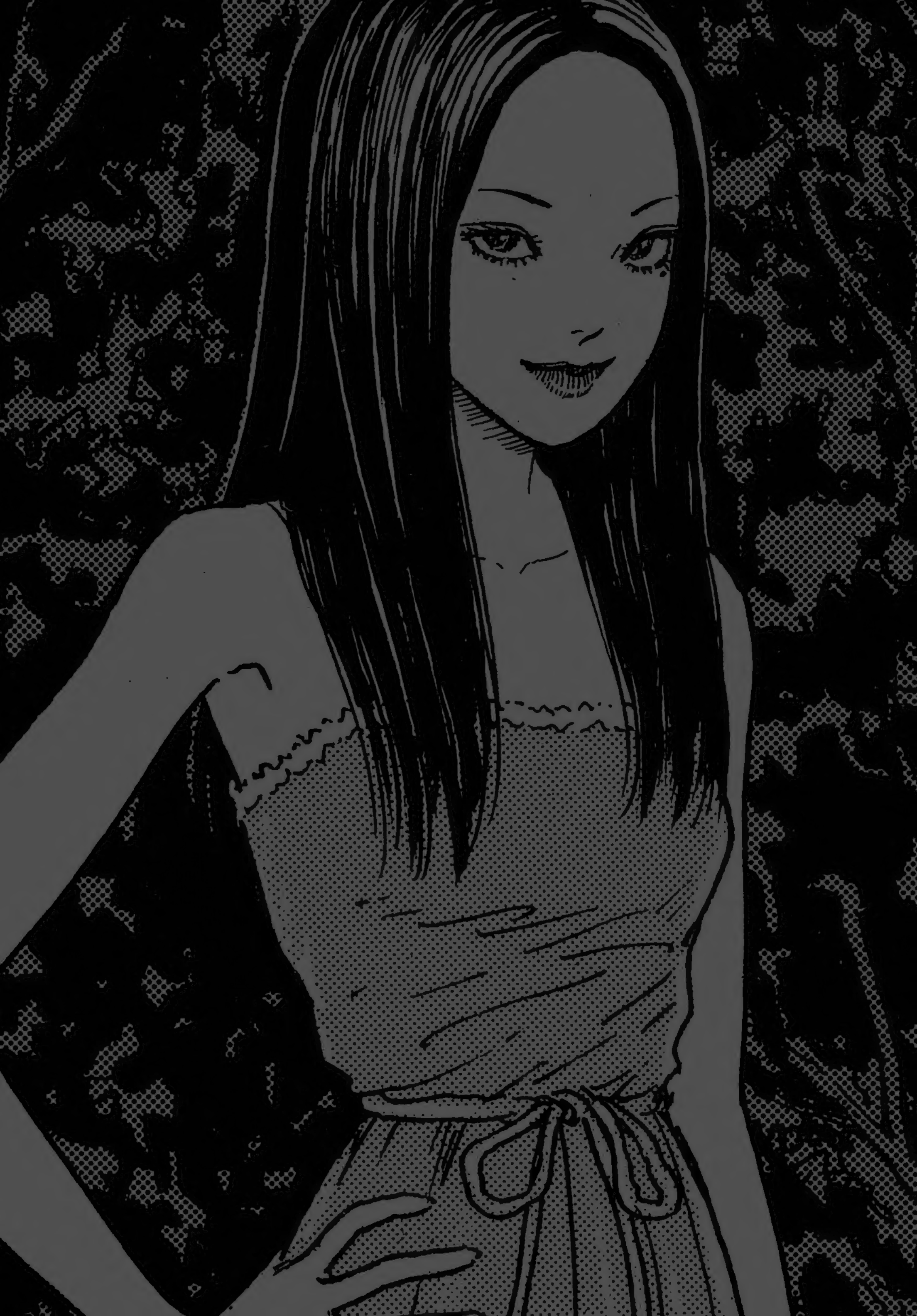
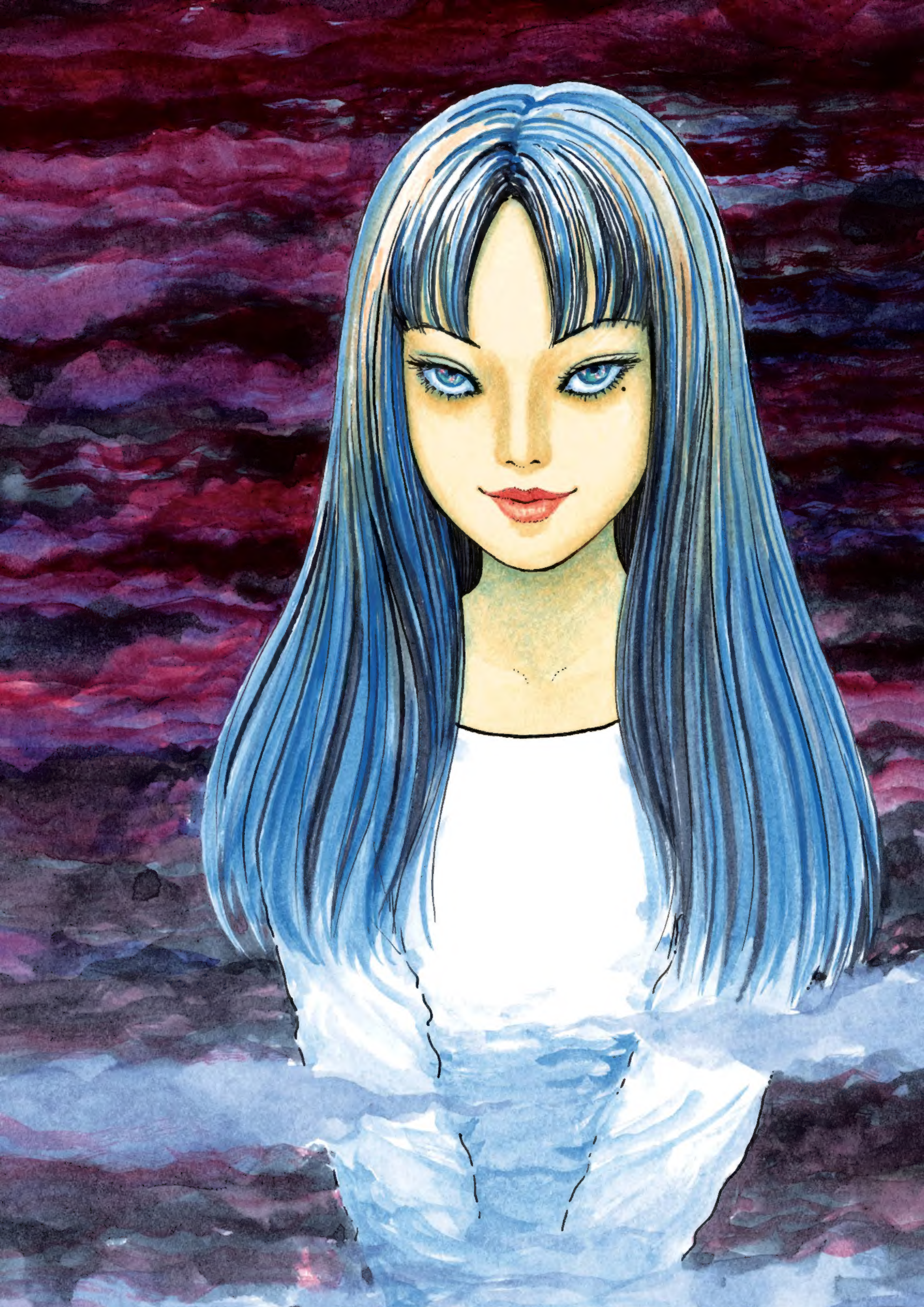
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Junji Ito made his professional manga debut in 1987 and since then has gone on to be recognized as one of the greatest contemporary artists working in the horror genre. His titles include *Tomie* and *Uzumaki*, which have been adapted into live-action films, and *Gyo*, which was adapted into an animated film. Ito's influences include classic horror manga artists Kazuo Umezu and Hideshi Hino, as well as authors Yasutaka Tsutsui and H.P. Lovecraft.